MAN LAUNCHES CHURCH ABUSE SUIT, PG 3

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HALIFAX • WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9-12, 2009 metro

Thanksgiving

Metro will not publish Monday, Oct. 12. The next edition will appear Tuesday.



Celebrity pg 26

Document in Travolta case was burned: Officer



Boys as young as 8 found on Lahey's laptop: Warrant

CHILD PORN A newly unsealed search warrant reveals just what Canadian border officials allegedly found on Roman Catholic Bishop Raymond Lahey's laptop when he was detained at Ottawa's airport.

The document claims officers found several sexually explicit images of boys believed to be as young as eight during a search.

Border services agent Venessa Fairey inspected Lahey's passport on Sept. 15 and noticed trips to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Spain and Germany.

Fairey asked if he was carrying a laptop and became suspicious when he hesitated before replying.

The document says border services flagged Lahey for a closer look because he was a man travelling alone, had travelled extensively to countries that are known sources of child pornography, and was evasive when asked if he was carrying electronics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO'S URBAN COMPASS COLUMNIST ON THE SCANDAL, PG 10

News on the Move

What's this barcode for?
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World pg 8

Obama to tolerate Taliban?



On the web
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PHILIP CROUCHER / METRO HALIFAX

Cruise ship passengers walk off Tall Ship Silva during a stopover in Halifax Thursday. It was a record day for cruise ship visitors, as about 11,000 passengers were in the city at some point Thursday.

Cruising to a record

ALEX BOUTILIER
for Metro Halifax

A record number of cruise ship passengers flooded into Halifax Thursday and were treated to a truly authentic Nova Scotian experience — rain, wind and chilly temperatures.

About 11,000 passengers from five large ships were docked in the Halifax harbour Thursday — a record breaking number of people for one day, according to the Halifax Port Authority.

"The Port of Halifax has been working with many of our partners … to really market the cruise business here in our region," said Cathy McGrail, the authority's manager of cruise ship development.

She also noted that while the weather is out of the authority's control, most visitors to the region know what they are getting into and are drawn to the changing leaves and crisp breeze.

Michigan's Mimi Murphy said she was enjoying her brief stay in Halifax despite the weather.

"I'm enjoying the cold weather," she said while strolling the Halifax waterfront. "Michigan has nice cold winters … it's just for the hardy people."

Her friend Myrt Hayes disagreed. With admirable self-restraint, even while looking particularly uncomfortable in the strong breeze, Hayes chattered that Halifax is beautiful, "but a little too cold."

Despite the chill, Sam Neale, captain of Tall Ship Silva, said many waterfront businesses open up shop this late in the year exclusively for cruise ship business.

"The harbourfront gets pretty crazy when a lot of cruise ships are in," Neale said. "It goes from being almost dead, because the local tourism season is done … to being totally busy. Everybody opens up at this point in time pretty much only for the cruise ships."

And business is booming. According to the port authority, the economic impact of cruise ship traffic is estimated at $50 million.

Two hundred and fifteen thousand passengers are expected to pass through the port this year, with approximately 175,000 of those coming through during September and October alone.

Banner week

- It's also a record-breaking week, with the Port of Halifax handling 16 cruise ships in five days for a total capacity of 27,657 passengers.

NSCC union requesting arbitration to avoid strike

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

The union representing the 930 Nova Scotia Community College workers in a legal strike position is asking the province and NSCC to agree to binding arbitration to resolve their contract dispute.

But in making the declaration Thursday evening following a conference call among executive members the union said if that's not agreed upon — and no deal is reached — the faculty and support staff will walk off the job Tuesday, Oct. 20.

"Everyone wants to avert a strike … (this way) it would be decided by an arbitrator," union president Alexis Allen said.

"It's a way to avert a strike so students won't lose their year or their term."

The union and NSCC have been bargaining for 16 months, with the most recent talks breaking off last Friday.

Earlier Thursday, Education Minister Marilyn More said the government doesn't plan to up their offer at the 11th hour to prevent a strike. More also said she's staying out of the negotiations and hopes the two sides get back to the table and work out a deal.

More noted she won't try to stop a union strike, if it comes to that. "That's their right to do that," More said.

WITH FILES FROM PAUL MCLEOD

MORE COVERAGE, PG 2

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Local



Wilco returning to town in spring

Chicago band Wilco, left, will be performing at the Halifax Forum on March 3 as part of a nine-city Canadian tour. Tickets go on sale Oct. 23. Wilco's Canadian tour starts with a free show in Vancouver on Feb. 13 for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games LiveCity festivities. Wilco is on tour in support of their most recent release Wilco (The Album), which features the song You and I with Feist. Wilco last appeared in Halifax in November opening for Neil Young at the Metro Centre. METRO HALIFAX

AWARDS
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2009 Festival of Media Awards

Man robs Burger King of cash drawer

CRIME Halifax RCMP are investigating a robbery at the Burger King on Sackville Drive Wednesday night.

Police say the suspect opened a drive-thru window and stole the cash drawer while the area was unattended around 11:45 p.m.

The suspect is described as a white male, approximately five-foot-11, wearing a white hoodie with a black design. Police say he left on foot toward the Downsview Motel area.

METRO HALIFAX

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY
Video Philip Latimer of N.S. launches church abuse suit, recalls "dark, dark place" of his youth, at **metronews.ca/canada**
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Students back college staff

100 walk out of NSCC campus to show support as strike looms

ALEX BOUTILIER
for Metro Halifax

About 100 students from the Nova Scotia Community College's Akerley Campus walked out during their lunch hour Thursday to demonstrate solidarity with their possibly striking teachers.

Contract negotiations between the province and the union representing NSCC faculty and support staff broke down last week. The union was meeting on Thursday night to decide possible strike dates, but are promising to give students proper notification should it come to that.

Students, some still in their school chef uniforms or coveralls, lined Woodlawn Drive in Dartmouth between noon and 1 p.m. to show their support. A few makeshift loose-leaf-and-highlighter signs could be seen in the crowd, asking drivers to Honk 4 Teachers.



PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO HALIFAX

Students from the Nova Scotia Community College's Akerley Campus in Dartmouth hold out paper signs to passing traffic during their lunch time Thursday. About 100 students walked out of the campus to show support for the faculty and professional support staff at the school as a strike looms.

Akerley's student association president Ian Wood said while students don't want a strike, they support their faculty's fight for adequate compensation.

"(We want to) let the media, the general public and the government know that we stand behind the faculty," he said.

Angelica Audet, a 21-year-old hospitality and tourism student, said she was very concerned about the possibility of losing classes for a prolonged period.

"This is already my second class at college," she said. "I ain't going to get a third one. I already messed up once. If they leave, I ain't going to get to come back."

Audet stressed that, despite her anxiety over losing the year, she was strongly behind the teachers' union.

"Absolutely, give them what they need. They work their asses off to teach everyone else that (is) going to be ... part of this country," she said.

"They're not paying them enough, they're paying them garbage."

Vandals strike bus shelters

TRANSIT Bus shelter vandals have cost Metro Transit $1,500, according to transit spokeswoman Lori Patterson.

Halifax Regional Police received a report just after 2:30 a.m. Thursday that two men were busting out the glass panes of a bus shelter in the Tremont Drive area on the Bedford Highway.

According to police, further investigation revealed the men had damaged a total of three bus shelters between Flamingo Drive and Kearney Lake Road.

Two males, 21 and 23, were arrested in relation to the incident. They each face three counts of property damage and will appear in court at a later date.

Patterson said one pane of glass was broken from each shelter at a cost of $500 each.

"It's a chronic problem," Patterson said about vandalism to bus shelters.

ALEX BOUTILIER/
FOR METRO HALIFAX

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News in brief

COLLISION A man was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries following a four-vehicle accident in front of the Esso station on the Bedford Highway Thursday afternoon, police say. Three vehicles were stopped in a line around 1 p.m. when a fourth car rear-ended the third one, causing the chain-reaction accident, according to police. METRO HALIFAX

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Gas prices going up?
It looks like we'll be paying more at the pump. Reports indicated Thursday that gas was going to jump by about two cents a litre when the regulated price was set at 12:01 a.m. Friday. Gas was selling around the Halifax region for 94.9 cents a litre the past seven days. METRO HALIFAX

'I was put into a dark, dark hole'

Latimer says lawsuit is intended to bring public scrutiny of church

Philip Latimer says it's not about the money.

The 47-year-old welder from Cape Breton, who alleges he was abused by a priest when he was a boy, could choose to apply for compensation under a $15-million class-action settlement recently approved by the dioceses of Antigonish.

But he won't do it.

On Thursday, Latimer spoke publicly for the first time about his decision to launch a separate civil lawsuit against the diocese and the archdiocese of Halifax in a bid to force the Roman Catholic church to be held to account in an open courtroom.

Latimer and his team of lawyers argue the class action process shields the church from public scrutiny because the disclosure of evidence will take place behind closed doors.

"My motivating factor has everything to do with the young boys of the parish — not money, not the settlement," he told an emotionally charged news conference in Halifax.

"I want healing, true healing."



ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Philip Latimer, who alleges he was sexually molested by a priest for four years beginning when he was 11, holds a photo from his youth at a news conference in Halifax on Thursday. With him is his brother Warren, left. Get Stephen Kimber's take on the Roman Catholic church's woes, page 10.

The settlement, certified by a Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge, is intended to compensate anyone who was allegedly and known to have been sexually assaulted by a priest of the Catholic Episcopal Corp. of Antigonish since Jan. 1, 1950.

Latimer said he was motivated to break his long silence when he learned that the clergyman who brokered the settlement, Bishop Raymond Lahey, had been charged Sept. 25 with importing and possessing child pornography in Ottawa.

"That triggered something within me," he said, his voice quavering. "When the man that orchestrated the deal was no different than the man that committed the crime, allegedly that did it for me."

Latimer's lawsuit names the archdiocese of Halifax and the diocese of Antigonish as defendants.

In his statement of claim, Latimer alleges he was sexually molested by a priest for four years, beginning when he was 11.

He alleges Rev. Allan MacDonald, who died in 2002, plied him with alcohol and abused him when he was an altar boy living in the rural Nova Scotia community of Havre Boucher.

"When I was a young boy, when this happened to me, I was put into a dark, dark hole, a dark, dark place," said Latimer, who lives in Pleasant Hill and is married with three daughters and a grand-daughter.

"I cannot describe to you the pain, the shame that I felt ... inside. I didn't ask for that. But then, I couldn't say nothing about it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing starts up, defying national downward trend

BUILDING Halifax residential construction increased last month compared to September 2008, bucking a national trend of decline.

According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, there were 200 multiple starts in Halifax last month, compared to 116 this time last year.

Matthew Gilmore, senior market analyst with CMHC's Atlantic Business Centre, said in a release Thursday the increase is due to the start of 180 new apartment-style units. Single starts were down in September compared to last year however overall starts still increased by 20.1 per cent due to the increase in multiple starts.

Total housing starts in urban centres across Canada decreased by 26 per cent.

The news comes on the heels of a Royal LePage survey that shows Halifax's most affordable homes saw the largest year-over-year price increase. Condominium prices increased by 15.4 per cent, detached bungalows increased 13.9 per cent and two storey homes were up 3.9 per cent. METRO HALIFAX

Atlantic small business owners are more upbeat than most in Canada, report says

RECESSION Small business owners in Atlantic Canada appear to be handling the recession better than the rest of the country.

According to TD Canada Trust Small Business Survey, 66 per cent of small business owners in Atlantic Canada say they are excited or optimistic about 2010, compared to 57 per cent nationally.

While business owners in Atlantic Canada were heavily impacted by the recession, 71 per cent say their business performance was either on, or ahead, of projections, said Tim Houck, regional sales manager for TD Canada Trust in a release yesterday.

"We may have moved on more quickly from the recession than other areas of the country."
Tim Houck, TD Canada Trust

"Compared to the rest of Canada, which is more concerned about the effects of the recession, Atlantic Canadian small business owners are more likely to be focused on managing cash flow, which suggests we may have moved on more quickly from the recession than other areas of the country," Houck said in a release.

Eleven per cent grew their business despite the recession and three per cent grew their business because of the recession, the survey reports..

Not surprisingly, it wasn't all good news — 27 per cent of Atlantic Canadian small business owners lost some business and 21 per cent are in more debt than they were 12 months ago. METRO HALIFAX

Workers prepare for draining of tar ponds

DIVERSION Contractors are currently finishing work needed to divert Coke Ovens Brook and Wash Brook around the tar ponds, preparing to drain the ponds for the biggest job of all: stabilization and solidification using cement.

Donnie Burke, the Sydney Tar Ponds Agency's project director, said this week that temporary pumping stations are moving water from the brooks into ditches alongside the tar ponds and that four-foot-high pipes are in place to carry the water — which includes storm sewer drainage from heavy rains — out to Sydney harbour while the main contractor works on the tar ponds sludge.

The $15.2-million diversion contract is being completed by MB2/Beaver Marine Joint Venture.

Burke said the main contractor, Nordly's Environmental, is expected to begin work on the $52-million solidification contract in about two weeks.

CAPE BRETON POST



Power outage strikes Glace Bay

About 1,700 people in Glace Bay were in the dark for about four hours Thursday as Nova Scotia Power responded to a power outage caused by damage to overhead equipment. It affected people in the King Edward Street, Argyle Street, Commercial Street and South Street areas. METRO HALIFAX

Price gouging fines to go up

PROVINCE The fines in Nova Scotia for price gouging during an emergency are about to be hiked up to 100 times higher.

Currently if a business or individual is found to be raising prices to exploit people in emergency situations they face a $1,000 fine. That's going up to $10,000 for individuals and $100,000 for companies.

Emergency Management Minister Ramona Jennex and EMO head Craig MacLaughlan both said they were unaware of anyone being convicted of price gouging in Nova Scotia. But they said the stiff fines would act as a deterrent.

The change is part of a bill unveiled Thursday that was inadvertently leaked to reporters in a media scrum by NDP MLA Percy Paris the day before. The bill will give the province the power to demand pandemic plans from outside businesses such as utilities, gas companies, grocery stores and universities. However staff say they don't have the capacity at the moment to judge those plans.

"If Nova Scotia Power were to drop their plan on a desk at present I would not have the expertise to evaluate whether that plan would work for Nova Scotia Power," MacLaughlan said. When asked then what the point of the bill was he said they may have the expertise in the future.

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX

MLA feels heat for taking convict under his wing

PAUL McLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

A local MLA is standing by his controversial decision to supervise a convicted child abuser.

In 2005 Kevin Bernard Kosinsky shook his three-month-old baby so hard she suffered brain damage.

Recently, Dartmouth North MLA Trevor Zinck of the NDP agreed to supervise the man so he could be released from prison and work 200 hours of community service at the Salvation Army.

The mother of Kosinsky's child has said it was the wrong thing to do and the man should be behind bars. But Zinck said he's trying to help the man transition to being a good citizen.

"It's a heinous crime and he knows that. However he went through the court system and now he's rehabilitating," Zinck told reporters Thursday at the Nova Scotia legislature.

"He is trying to transition so I saw fit to help him with that effort."

Premier Darrell Dexter said he would not have done the same thing. He said it can cause uncomfortable situations even if the member acted with the best of intentions.

Dexter, a lawyer, said Zinck should have consulted him or others in the party for their advice.

Zinck said he'll do that in the future but has no regrets on how he handled Kosinsky's case.

"I don't regret it. I understand the optics around it. I know that it's a difficult decision for anyone to try to make ... but if I merely closed my door to those folks I wouldn't be doing a service to my community," he said.

"In my community unfortunately I deal with a lot of people who are going through transitions in their lives and obviously coming from different situations. I never pre-judge anyone who comes through my door."

Zinck said he is meeting with the child's mother Friday and is going to try to get them both more help.



CP/Andrew Vaughan

Dartmouth North MLA Trevor Zinck has received criticism from his own NDP colleagues, including Premier Darrell Dexter, regarding his decision to supervise a convicted child abuser.

"If I merely closed my door to those folks I wouldn't be doing a service to my community."
Trevor Zinck on helping Kevin Kosinsky

Fisheries get injection of cash from province

FUNDING Nova Scotia's seafood industry has reeled in some big bucks from the province. Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Sterling Belliveau announced Thursday the province is giving $1.2 million to the industry. A government release says the money will go to seafood processors to diversify markets, develop new products, improve productivity and product quality and meet consumer expectations regarding food sustainability.

The release also noted the money is part of $3.75 million in funding to the seafood industry through the Community Development Trust Fund, which was established by the federal government in 2008.

METRO HALIFAX

Opposition continues to grill Belliveau over loan

LEGISLATURE Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter may have declared case closed Thursday on questions concerning a possible conflict of interest involving provincial Fisheries Minister Sterling Belliveau, but the opposition parties didn't get the message.

Both the Liberals and the Conservatives have been pressing this week for proof that Belliveau, a 38-year veteran of the fishery, played no part in a loan that helped finance the sale of his fishing boat, gear and licence.

The governing New Democrats have maintained the minister took all the steps necessary to distance himself from the arms-length body that he oversees, the Fisheries and Acquaculture Loan Board.

Outside the weekly cabinet meeting Dexter was asked by reporters whether he thought it was case closed on the matter.

"Absolutely, it was never a case to begin with as far as I was concerned. Everything was done entirely appropriately."

However, Dexter's certainty was replaced with frustration a few hours later after the opposition used up about 48 of the 60 minutes allotted for the legislature's question period grilling Belliveau about the circumstances around the loan.

"We have now had two days of examination. We've answered the same question over and over and over again and it's fundamentally clear that dig as they might there is nothing here," a visibly exasperated Dexter told reporters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Trucker busted for smoking on the job
A 48-year-old truck driver from London, Ont., has been fined for smoking at work — the cab of his rig. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada



DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Native drummers lead dignitaries on a tour of the athlete's village for the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver, B.C., on Thursday. Ninety-five ambassadors and high commissioners to Canada were given a tour of the athlete's village.

Shutterbugs eyed

IOC sends letter to man over Olympic shots on Flickr

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

Amateur photographers in the spectator stands at the Olympics should look over their shoulders before peering through the lens because a powerful organization will be sure to watch what they do with those snapshots.

The International Olympic Committee sent a cease-and-desist letter to Richard Giles, 38, after discovering his collection of images from his three-week solo trip to China for the 2008 Beijing Games on the popular online photo-sharing site Flickr, where he was allowing other people to use them as they wished.

The letter marks the first time the International Olympic Committee — whose website calls it the "supreme authority of the Olympic Movement" — has moved to protect its image on a social media site. "Images of the Games taken by you may not be used for any purposes other than private, which does not include licensing of the pictures to third parties," said the notice.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Grits file complaint over federal ads

POLITICS The Liberals have launched a formal complaint with the Treasury Board alleging the Conservative government is "running roughshod" over rules against partisan advertising.

A sweeping national ad campaign to promote last January's federal budget measures has been blanketing the country at a cost of tens of millions of dollars.

Martha Hall-Findlay, the Liberal public works critic, says the Economic Action Plan ads are "unprecedented." THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

CHARGES A 28-year-old man has been charged in what Hamilton, Ont., police are calling their first-ever "direct evidence" arrest involving GHB, known as the date rape drug. Police allege the suspect put the substance in a woman's drink first at a bar, then again when the couple went to his home. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TD changes stock options for execs

TD Bank is changing the way it pays executives to de-emphasize the use of stock options. Among the changes, stock options will now vest after four years instead of vesting at 25 per cent each year, starting with options granted at the end of this year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Online column discriminatory, says former B.C. chief

BLOG A controversial blog written by a Vancouver-born columnist and posted on the website of British newspaper The Daily Telegraph is inflammatory and discriminatory against aboriginal people, says the former chief of a Vancouver Island First Nation.

Rachel Marsden's article, posted Tuesday, claims the Olympics are "peddling a politically correct fantasy" by placing First Nations culture on a pedestal.

"Canada … was third-worldish until the … Europeans arrived and started planning and building infrastructure and government, and teaching the natives discipline, order, and capitalism," Marsden wrote.

Judith Sayers, strategic adviser, Hupacasath First Nation, said the article is ignorant, and a "slap" in the face of First Nations people.

"It's beyond belief that in 2009 such blatant racism is being allowed to be made public," said Sayers.

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO CANADA

New Brunswick **Showing the finger**



MONCTON TIMES & TRANSCRIPT/VIKTOR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Richard Roy lost a finger to a virus a few days ago and is almost done building his own replacement finger. He demonstrates how it will work at his home in Sainte-Marie-de-Kent, N.B., near Moncton this week.

News in brief

LAWSUIT Robert Dziekanski's mother says four RCMP officers acted with malice and used excessive force when they confronted her son at Vancouver's airport and stunned him multiple times with a Taser. Zofia Cisowski filed a lawsuit this week against the four officers, the federal and provincial governments, and the Vancouver airport.

CONVICTED An Islamic extremist who helped mastermind a terrifying plot that involved bombing downtown Toronto became the fifth member of a terrorist group to be convicted when he entered a surprise guilty plea Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Foiled hijacker gets 20 years

Man sentenced for attempt on Halifax-bound plane

The man who barged through security at a Jamaican airport and attempted to hijack a Canjet plane bound for Halifax was sentenced Thursday up to 20 years behind bars.

Stephen Fray, 22, was handed an 83-year prison term on the various charges by a Montego Bay court. The sentences are to be served concurrently so it works out to 20 years behind bars.

Fray was convicted of multiple charges related to the April 19 incident, including assault and robbery.

The decision will likely come as a blow to Fray's supporters, who organized a petition claiming he suffers from paranoid schizophrenia and requires long-term psychiatric care rather than jail time.

But Brenda Grenier, one of the 167 people on board Canjet Flight 918, said she believes the punishment fits the crime.

"He could have put a lot of people's lives in danger … I think it's fair, what he got."
Brenda Grenier, passenger

"He could have put a lot of people's lives in danger. I know I thought for a moment that we were all goners," she said in a phone interview from Halifax. "I think it's fair, what he got."

Fray, who was carrying his father's .38-calibre revolver, managed to dodge airport security and board the aircraft where he began brandishing his weapon and demanding to be flown off the island.

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Capone's hideout sold in foreclosure

Legendary Chicago mobster Al Capone's former hideout in northern Wisconsin, complete with guard towers and a stone house with 18-inch-thick walls, was sold for $2.6 million US Thursday to the bank that foreclosed on it. Capone owned the land in the late 1920s and early 1930s during Prohibition, the bank said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Journalist refuses to pay damages

An Argentinian journalist says she will not pay damages to Mexico's former first lady, despite a court order in an invasion of privacy case. Mexico's Supreme Court has ruled that Olga Wornat, left, must comply with a lower court order to pay 500,000 pesos — about $37,000 — to Martha Sahagun, the wife of former president Vicente Fox. Sahagun sued Wornat in 2005 because she said an article the journalist published that year about the annulment of her first marriage sought to personally damage her. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French minister denies paying boys for sex

PARIS France's culture minister denied Thursday paying boys for sex, in an impassioned response to critics on the right and left demanding that he resign over a candid book recounting encounters with male prostitutes in Thailand.

"I condemn sexual tourism, which is a disgrace. I condemn pedophilia, which I have never in any way participated in," Frederic Mitterrand, 62, nephew of late president Francois Mitterrand, said in a TV interview. In a 2005 book, La mauvaise vie, or The Bad Life, Mitterrand describes Bangkok's brothels in rich, torrid detail, and the joy and freedom of paying "boys" for sex.

Mitterrand admitted to "errors" in paying for sex in the past, but said he had relations only with men his age. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tolerate the Taliban?

Source: Obama prepared to accept certain factors

U.S. President Barack Obama is prepared to accept some Taliban involvement in Afghanistan's political future and appears inclined to send only as many more U.S. troops as needed to keep al-Qaida at bay, a senior administration official said Thursday.

The sharpened focus by Obama's team on fighting al-Qaida above all other goals, while downgrading the emphasis on the Taliban, comes in the midst of an intensely debated administration review of the increasingly unpopular eight-year-old war.

Though aides stress that the president's final decision on any changes is still at least two weeks away, the emerging thinking suggests that he would be very unlikely to favour a large military increase of the kind being advocated by the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley McChrystal.

Obama's developing strategy on the Taliban will "not tolerate their return to power," the senior official said in an interview with The Associated Press.

But the U.S. would fight only to keep the Taliban from retaking control of Afghanistan's central government — something it is now far from being capable of — and from giving renewed sanctuary in Afghanistan to al-Qaida, the official said.

Bowing to the reality that the Taliban is too ingrained in Afghanistan's culture to be entirely defeated, the administration is prepared to accept some Taliban role in parts of Afghanistan, the official said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban suicide bombing kills 17

• A suicide car bomber detonated a vehicle outside the Indian Embassy in Kabul Thursday, killing 17 people. The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack — the second against the Indian Embassy in the past two years — and specified that Indians were the target.

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Israel **Peace on the back burner**



MUHAMMED MUHEISEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Israeli border police officer fires tear gas during clashes with Palestinians at a checkpoint between the West Bank city of Ramallah and Jerusalem Thursday. Israel's foreign minister declared that there is no chance of reaching a final accord with the Palestinians any time soon.



*Cash sale price for 2009 Versa Sedan (B4EG59 AA00) includes $1500 in cash incentives in lieu of NCF subvented rates. Freight, PDI, registration, taxes, Atlantic Pkg, Vehicle Etching and Road Hazard are extra. O'Regan's Nissan preferred bank rates may be used along with $1500 discount. **0% Sentra financing is fixed for 60 months $2500 discount applies to in-stock 2009 Sentra 2.0S(C4BG59,C4BG19) and is in lieu of NCF subvented rates. O'Regan's Nissan preferred bank rates may be used along with $2500 discount. †MSRP for 09 Cube (D5RG59 AA00) excludes freight, PDI, registration, taxes, Atlantic Pkg, Vehicle Etching and Road Hazard. Sale price includes $500 in-stock discount.††$2000 Versa Hatchback discount applies to in-stock 2009 Versas (B5LG79,B5UG59, B5UG19) and is in lieu of NCF subvented rates. O'Regan's Nissan preferred bank rates may be used along with $2000 discount. Versa H/B financing at 0% is fixed for 36 months ΔO'Regan's Nissan preferred bank rates may be used along with $4000 discount on in-stock 2009 Murano. ΔΔ Altima financing at 0% is fixed for 36 months Vehicles may not be exactly as shown.

News in brief

MURDER The mysterious death of a Florida hotel heir has triggered a family feud over his multimillion-dollar estate, with relatives accusing his wife of murder even though no one has been charged. Ben Novack Jr., whose father founded the lavish Fontainebleau Hotel in Miami Beach, was found beaten to death in July. His wife, Narcy Novack, is a person of interest in the killing, and relatives claim she deserves nothing from the estate, which includes a vast collection of Batman memorabilia.

RUSSIA A Moscow court began hearings Thursday in a libel suit brought by Josef Stalin's grandson against a newspaper he claims called into question the former Soviet dictator's honour and dignity. Yevgeny Dzhugashvili is demanding 10 million rubles ($340,000) compensation from Novaya Gazeta.

ACCIDENT The collapse of two elevators in a mine in central China has killed 26 men and injured five others in the latest accident to hit the country's dangerous mining industry. The official Xinhua News Agency said that the 26 men died in the mine in Lengshuijiang city in Hunan province happened when the brakes failed. China's mines are the world's deadliest, although the closing of many dangerous mines has halved the average number of miners killed to about six a day in the first half of this year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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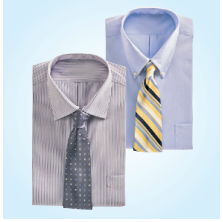


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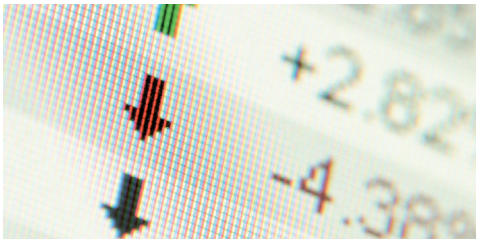
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Comment

Dangerous deflation





If it isn't one thing, it's another. When economists aren't fretting over a renewal of inflation, they're fearful of deflation, a general fall in the level of prices for goods and services. Deflation is lately seen to have taken root in Japan. Consumer prices excluding food in that country dropped 2.4 per cent in August from the previous year, the biggest fall since the country started keeping records in 1971. It remains uncertain whether deflation will be exported to Canada like some economic H1N1, but this is not an infection we want. As tantalizing as it might be to think of our dollars having increased purchasing power, deflation would have mostly negative consequences. Falling prices can actually discourage purchasing, and in the longer term curtail output and investment, leading to lower overall demand. Eventually, you get a deflationary spiral that shrivels the economy.

For those who run businesses, deflation has scary implications. Take a grocery chain like Loblaws — deflation means product prices on the shelf decline, even while other operating costs such as wages, thanks to labour contracts, have built-in increases. Margins are then squeezed even tighter, bad news in a business that in recent years has been rapaciously competitive and, since last year, hobbled by recession.

Loblaws just introduced its new "Rounded Down" program of price reductions and its deputy chairman has recently said that food inflation is turning into food deflation. That will put grocery retailers under even more intense pressure to build sales revenues on the basis of volume rather than price. It means being locked into expansion plans to build the ever larger stores that can actually deliver volume and continuing with internal process improvements to make stock delivery and store operations more efficient.

For Loblaws, imminent deflation is just one more piece of distasteful news. The company has struggled successfully in recent years to rethink its product offering, fix a flawed supply chain, and fortify the bottom line, all with grocery predators like Wal-Mart encroaching on its territory. The payoff has been elusive. Loblaw Companies shares were worth more than $76 just four years ago. Today they're just above $31. If deflation infects the checkout counter, the share price becomes just as vulnerable as the price of tomatoes.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Church problems starting to boil over



I know it is correct — politically and otherwise — to be scandalized by news that child pornography was allegedly discovered on a laptop computer belonging to the now-suddenly former Roman Catholic bishop of Antigonish, Raymond Lahey.

I am. Up to a point.

If the material in question includes photographs of actual children — based on the charges, they could as easily be photos of youngish-looking adults posing as teenagers or even illustrations — then someone exploited those children to create the images. There are also now insinuations — unconfirmed — that Lahey frequented well-known sex tourism destinations like Thailand. If Lahey, even indirectly, contributed to actual child exploitation, he should be held accountable.

That said, the portrait that emerges from the rush to rummage through his life and closets is of a complex, complicated man seemingly in continuing conflict with himself.

According to Shane Earle — a survivor of abuse at the infamous Mount Cashel orphanage in Newfoundland — Father Lahey, then a parish priest just outside St. John's, provided refuge for many of the boys abused at the orphanage. "He was all these idealistic things you want in a father," Earle told the Globe and Mail.

But during one of his visits to Lahey's home in the mid-1980s, Earle says he discovered "graphic pictures of aroused teenage boys" in Lahey's bedroom.

To be clear, Earle does not suggest Lahey ever physically or sexually assaulted him. Neither, to this point at least, does anyone else.

And, whatever his own private fantasies, Father Lahey never publicly condoned actual abuse.

Ironically, just before his arrest, he even helped negotiate a landmark $15-million settlement of sexual abuse claims against priests in Antigonish, the diocese he had gone on to head.

Shane Earle wasn't surprised. "I remembered as a child how concerned he was about child abuse," he told the National Post, "so I knew there was a side of him that could be an asset to this whole process."

There's much we don't know about Lahey's case. It is early to rush to judgment. But it is possible — probable — that, even if the allegations are true, Lahey is not the only villain.

Based on what we already know from way too many other proven cases, the real villain is a Roman Catholic church whose unhealthy, unholy demands on those who serve it created a sexual pressure cooker primed to explode. And it has. Too often. It is time to deal with that.

Stephen Kimber, the Rogers Communications Chair in Journalism at the University of Kings College, is the author of eight books.

Worth mentioning

You can stop panicking, the world isn't ending

MAYANS Apolinario Chile Pixtun is tired of being bombarded with frantic questions about the Mayan calendar supposedly "running out" on Dec. 21, 2012. After all, it's not the end of the world.



Or is it?

Definitely not, the Mayan elder insists.

"I came back from England last year and, man, they had me fed up with this stuff."

A significant time period for the Mayas does end on the date, and enthusiasts have found a series of astronomical alignments they say coincide in 2012, including one that happens roughly only once every 25,800 years.

But most archeologists, astronomers and Maya say the only thing likely to hit Earth is a meteor shower of New Age philosophy, pop astronomy and Internet doomsday rumours.

And it can only get worse. Next month Hollywood's "2012" opens in cinemas, featuring earthquakes, meteor showers and a tsunami dumping an aircraft carrier on the White House.

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Pilots group documenting incidents of fatigue
The Air Canada Pilots Association is launching an initiative to track incidents of pilot fatigue. Air Canada pilots will document incidents of fatigue and contributing factors with a form used by pilots at other major airlines. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Business

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PepsiCo Controlling costs


JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A delivery driver loads Pepsi products on a cart to be delivered to a convenience store in Orlando, Fla. Soft drinks and snack maker PepsiCo said Thursday its fiscal third-quarter profit rose nine per cent, partly on cost-control efforts.

Business in brief

TV Canada's broadcasters have launched a campaign to lobby for the right to negotiate fees with cable companies, who currently don't pay to carry local TV programming. The CBC, Global TV and CTV say 30 small- and medium-sized local TV stations in Canada could be at risk if they're not able to collect a fee from cable companies. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Loonie taking flight

Some predict parity with greenback this year

The Canadian dollar appears to be again reaching for parity.

With the greenback falling against most global currencies, the loonie has caught an updraft that has seen it gain about three cents in just over a week, to approach 95 cents US.

And many factors — including an expected positive jobs report from Statistics Canada on Friday — are expected to help keep the loonie rising, possibly to parity by the end of the year.

The consensus is for the agency to report that 5,000 net jobs were created in September. That is a modest number, but marks a major difference from the situation in the U.S. — against whose currency the loonie is measured.

It would represent the second monthly employment gain in Canada and a clear indication the country is bouncing back from recession, whereas the U.S. is still reporting massive three-digit monthly job losses.

In fact, the U.S. hasn't had a positive reading in almost two years.

As well, the Australian central bank's decision this week to raise interest rates is leading to speculation that the Bank of Canada will be the next to move, regardless of governor Mark Carney's "conditional commitment" to keep the policy rate at an ultra-low 0.25 per cent until mid-2010.

Carney didn't do anything to dissuade the speculation with his latest speech, in which he devoted three paragraphs to reminding listeners that the commitment was conditional, stressing that the pledge was "an expectation, not a promise."

The loonie is also benefiting from a general mood of optimism about the global economy that is pushing commodity prices and demand higher, particularly for oil. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Judge OK's Sun-Times paper sale

MEDIA A Delaware bankruptcy judge on Thursday approved the sale of the Chicago Sun-Times and other newspapers owned by its parent company to a group led by Chicago businessman Jim Tyree.

The Tyree group offered to pay $5 million US for the assets of the Sun-Times Media Group Inc., which includes the Chicago tabloid and more than 50 suburban publications.

The investors also plan to assume about $22 million in liabilities.

A major hurdle to closing the deal was cleared Wednesday when leaders of five unions that had rejected contract concessions, tentatively agreed to contract changes. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Robert Kiyosaki will not attend this workshop.

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12 business

CoolBrands scores court victory

A New York court has dismissed an appeal by Capricorn Investors of a decision that threw out most of its claims against Canada's CoolBrands International, CoolBrands said Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Energy prices up despite glut

Energy prices climbed Thursday despite massive petroleum surpluses, as the U.S. dollar weakened and equities markets rose.

Benchmark crude for November delivery added $2.12 US to settle at $71.69 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

In London, Brent crude gained $2.57 to settle at $69.77 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Natural gas, gas futures and heating oil also jumped.

"It amazes me," said Dan Flynn, an analyst with PFGBest. "With all the supply we have, we are way overpriced."

The U.S. Energy Information Administration said this week that the country continues to sit on massive surpluses of petroleum.

In Canada, the price at the pump averaged 95.4 cents Cdn per litre, down from $1.014 per litre a month ago and $1.188 per litre at this time last year, according to website GasBuddy.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Monsanto 'co-operating' in U.S. probe

PROBE The U.S. Justice Department is investigating whether Monsanto Co. violated antitrust rules in trying to expand in the market for genetically engineered crops, the company said Thursday.

Monsanto has provided interviews and documents to the department, said company spokesperson Lee Quarles.

Quarles said Monsanto has done nothing illegal and is co-operating with the investigation.

"We definitely stand behind our business," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo What a showoff



ITSUO INOUYE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nissan's Land Glider electric vehicle is demonstrated near Tokyo. It tilts from side to side, sashaying into curves as though showing off its zero-emissions.

Homes for sale in short supply

PRICE SURVEY The housing market may be recovering, but there's a shortage of homes for sale.

That's according to the latest house price survey by Royal LePage.

Royal LePage says the average price of a two storey home in Canada is up just 0.1 per cent from a year ago at $409,335.

Average bungalow values grew 0.06 per cent year-over-year to $341,146.

Royal LePage says a shortage in housing supply is leading to bidding wars in Toronto, Montreal, St. John's, N.L.; St. John, N.B., Moncton, Edmonton, Calgary, North and West Vancouver, and Victoria. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Italian captain fails drug test

The captain of Italy's national soccer team has failed a doping test. Fabio Cannavaro's club team Juventus said cortisone used to treat a bee sting lead to the failure. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

An inspiring return



CBC's Battle of the Blades has confirmed two things. First and foremost, hockey players, even retired ones, attract huge audiences. Secondly, figure skaters are underrated when it comes to appreciating this country's sporting heroes.

"It's getting more competitive than I ever envisioned," said Paul Martini, a former World pairs champion who's instructing the puck studs in the finer points of skating. "It's like teaching kids to walk. The things we normally do are not normal for these guys."

On opening night 1.95 million Canadians tuned in to watch the likes of Bob Probert, Tie Domi and Claude Lemieux execute lifts and spirals.

It was both startling and riveting.

But so were the performances of the females who, let's face it, made the guys look good. In particular Barb Underhill, the 46-year-old who partnered with Martini to win the World title a quarter of a century ago. This time she skated alongside a flashy forward, 52-year-old Ron Duguay. They formed the oldest duo by far, but they were just plain spectacular.


Barb Underhill

She in tight leather pants and hockey skates — his trademark Bon Jovi hair flowed. Underhill and Duguay made every move at high speed and with flair.

"This is who I am and it's such a huge part of me," said Underhill, who hadn't performed since 1998 in an exhibition at Maple Leaf Gardens, now the icy field of play for Battle of the Blades

"When I stopped skating, the light went out and I couldn't find anything to replace it," she reflected. "Now I'm getting this second chance to do what I love."

When beginning to prepare, Barb Underhill pulled out her little skating dress then tossed it aside. She had been working with the Ontario Hockey League Guelph Storm and the Anaheim Ducks teaching power skating. Hockey boots and blades seemed to make sense for her on-ice revival.

Until her routine with Ron Duguay, her children had not witnessed her in competition. "When I saw my 14-year-old son's face I thought he was going to burst with pride," Underhill enthused. "It was like reliving my great years."

Well worth the effort.

The hockey players may get most of the attention but Barb Underhill's performance went beyond being amusing and entertaining; it was inspiring.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

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Sports in brief

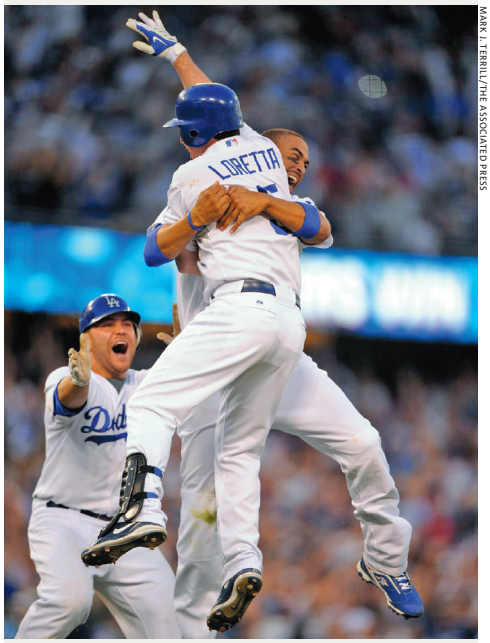
TENNIS Serena Williams was knocked out of the China Open on Thursday, losing to Nadia Petrova of Russia 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (5) in the third round only days before officially recovering her No. 1 ranking.

HOCKEY The Detroit Red Wings signed veteran forward Brad May to a one-year contract on Thursday. The 37-year-old left-winger split last season between Anaheim and Toronto, recording a goal and six assists with 89 penalty minutes in a total of 58 games.

NFL NFL ratings in the United States are at their highest in 20 years. Through the first four weeks of the season, games are drawing their best average viewership since 1989 at 17.4 million, up 14 per cent from the same point in 2008.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Playoffs Dodging defeat


MARK J. TERRILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Dodgers' Matt Kemp, right, celebrates Mark Loretta's base hit to win the game along with Russell Martin, left, during the ninth inning against the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday. The Dodgers won 3-2 and took a 2-0 lead in the series. **Visit metronews.ca/sports for more playoff coverage.**

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Mouzar heading to Grand Slam of Curling

Mayflower's Jill Mouzar will compete at the first Grand Slam of Curling event this weekend in Calgary. Mouzar and teammates Heather Smith-Dacey, Kristen MacDiarmid and Teri Lake are Nova Scotia's only representation at the $56,000 event, which starts on Friday. METRO HALIFAX

From grinder to 'superstar'

Gritty winger Travis Randell finds himself atop Mooseheads' scoring list

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Mooseheads winger Travis Randell has piled up five goals and two assists in his last four games and netted his first career hat trick Oct. 3 against the Val-d'Or Foreurs.

Travis Randell's goal-scoring binge is getting him some good-natured ribbing. Even from his head coach.

"We need superstar in here when you're done," joked Halifax Mooseheads bench boss Cam Russell sarcastically, while Randell was being interviewed outside the team's dressing room at the Metro Centre on Thursday afternoon.

Superstar. It's not the tag you'd expect for a meat-and-potatoes right-winger known more for his shot-blocking, penalty-killing and checking ability than his offensive panache.

But Randell has been a superstar lately, at least in the relative terms of present-day Moose Country. He has piled up five goals and two assists in his last four games and netted his first career hat trick Oct. 3 against the Val-d'Or Foreurs.

That's pushed him to the top of the Mooseheads' scoring list, and if you go back to the end of last season, he has seven goals and 14 assists for 21 points in his past 27 games.

"A year older, a year quicker, a year stronger, I definitely wanted to come in and be a leader," said the third-year Twillingate, N.L., native. "I wanted to come in and chip in a bit more offensively and pick up where I left off last year."

Randell has spent many of the past 27 games alongside reigning team MVP Tomas Knotek and emerging 19-year-old Gerrad Grant, and the line has developed strong chemistry.

But if Randell doesn't score another goal all year, he probably won't let any of his coaches down.

"He does so many little things well, blocks shots, kills penalties, leads on and off the ice," said Russell, who once compared Randell to a cross between former Chicago Blackhawks stalwarts Dirk Graham and Brent Sutter. "The offence is just a bonus. But he's getting it as a result of his hard work."

Superstar? It's fair to say that's a stretch. Randell has no plans to abandon his bread and butter anytime soon.

"Last minutes of games, big-time penalty kills, blocking shots … I kind of feed off of that," Randell said.

But if the goals keep coming, he'll take every one.

"They're not always the prettiest, but they're going in," Randell said. "Hopefully, it just carries on."

O'Connor returns

- Former Halifax Mooseheads defenceman Gabriel O'Connor returns to the Metro Centre on Friday at 7 p.m. with the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies. The soon-to-be 19-year-old was dealt at June's draft for the Huskies' 15th overall pick, which the Mooseheads used to select forward Brent Andrews.

"It feels weird, getting dressed in the other dressing room," said O'Connor, after arriving at the Metro Centre via bus yesterday. "I never saw (that room) in three years here. It's going to be great playing back here in front of these fans."

AUS Final 6 heading to Sydney, for at least a year

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Atlantic University Sport Final 6 men's basketball tournament is leaving Halifax for a year — and maybe longer.

The AUS announced yesterday that for the first time in almost three decades, the popular annual event will be held outside of Halifax at Centre 200 in Sydney from March 12 to 14 because of a conflict with the Tim Hortons Brier.

The Canadian men's curling championship, the Brier, runs from March 6 to 14 at the Metro Centre.

But AUS executive director Phil Currie said the move from Halifax could be more than just a one-year hiatus. With the Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's basketball championship returning to the Metro Centre from Ottawa in 2011, "our members have interest in having the (Final 6) moved."

"We need to have a look at how this works in 2010, and if it's successful have internal discussion about moving it away for a couple of years while we host the national championship in Halifax," he said. "Those things aren't decided but they're conversations we can have leading up to (2011)."

The Final 6 has been held at the Metro Centre for 24 of the past 28 years. The other four it was held at the Halifax Forum. The last time the Final 6 was held outside of Halifax was in 1981 at the Aitken Centre in Fredericton, N.B.

The AUS didn't want to hold the Final 6 at the Forum again because the last time that happened — in 2003 — attendance dropped by roughly 50 per cent.

Trade Centre Ltd. is shipping the Metro Centre's basketball floor to and from Centre 200 for the event.

Currie said Sydney "just made sense."

"They're welcoming us with open arms," he said.

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Dunbrack beats City before snow delay tournament

SOCCER Halifax Dunbrack shutout Halifax City 3-0 at the Canadian senior women's soccer championship in Saskatoon on Thursday before snow put a wrench into the tournament.

Leanne Huck, Katie Richards and Julie Lawrence provided the offence as the provincial champions knocked off the reigning Jubilee Trophy national champions.

Yesterday's games after the Dunbrack-City tilt were postponed because of heavy snow and action will move inside on Friday, with games reduced from 90 to 60 minutes.

In men's action late Wednesday, Halifax City lost 4-1 to P.E.I.

METRO HALIFAX

Sports in brief

JUNIOR A HOCKEY The Halifax Lions lost 3-1 to the Miramichi Timberwolves in Maritime Junior A Hockey League play last night at the Forum. Justin Belanger had the lone goal for the Lions, who are in last with a 1-4-1 record.

HOCKEY Former Halifax Mooseheads goaltender Joey MacDonald was recalled by the Toronto Maple Leafs on Thursday. The Bayview, Pictou Co., native will fill in for rookie Jonas Gustavsson, who is out with a groin injury.

METRO HALIFAX

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FRIDAY'S GAMES
ROUYN-NORANDA AT HALIFAX, 8 p.m.
Lewiston at Acadie-Bathurst, 8:30 p.m.
Shawinigan at Chicoutimi, 8:30 p.m.
Victoriaville at Drummondville, 8:30 p.m.
Val-d'Or at Gatineau, 8:30 p.m.
Quebec at Rimouski, 8:30 p.m.



Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

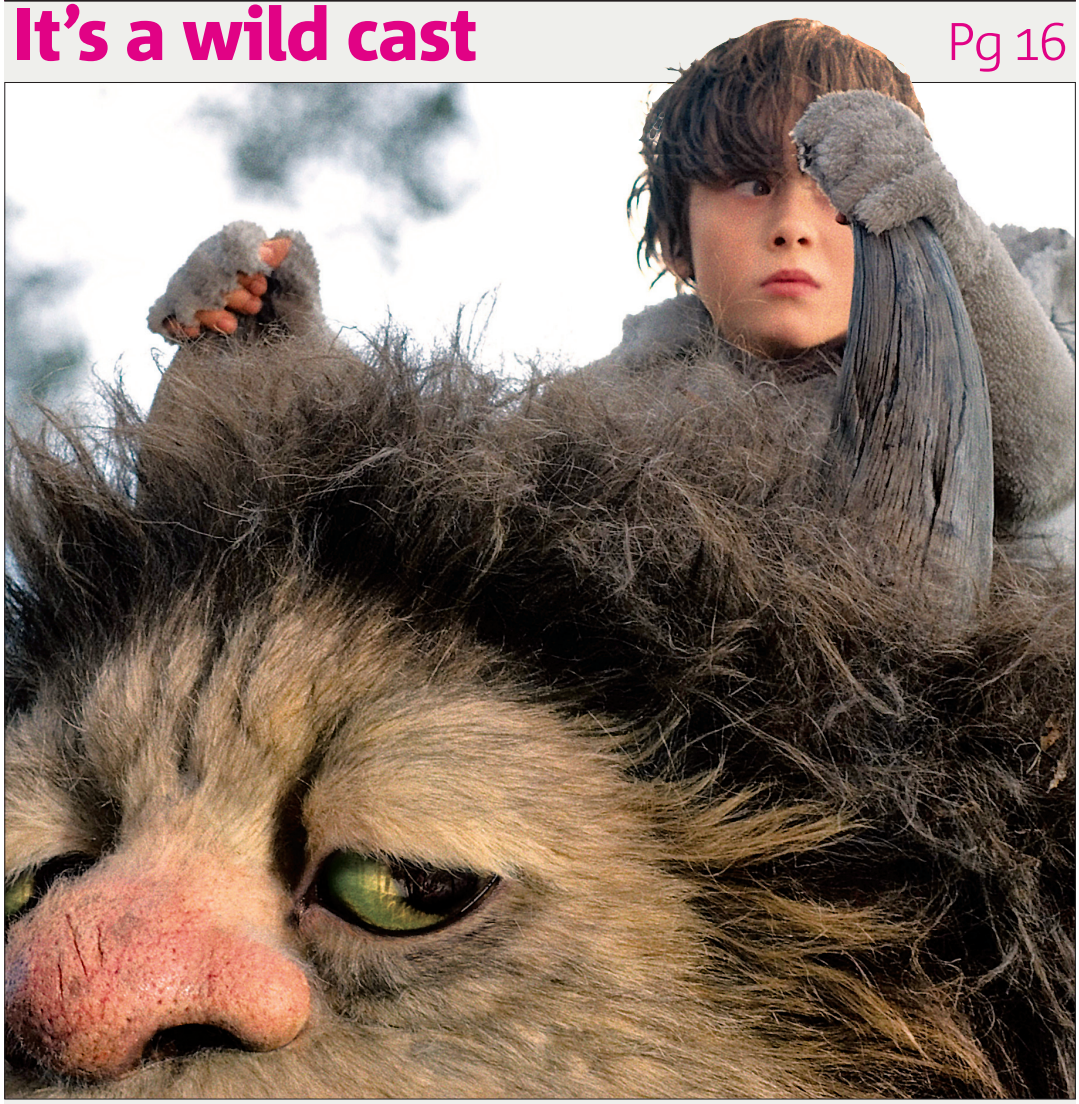
Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

It's a wild cast

Pg 16



Second City veteran Catherine O'Hara channels her inner beast in Where The Wild Things Are, in which she voices Judith, a troublesome "Wild Thing" with a horn. Also starring in the children's book-turned-movie are Forest Whitaker and James Gandolfini.

Movies

Pg 17



Couples Retreat is a pleasant time-waster, says our critic.

Music

Pg 21



Michael Bublé shows off his most diverse set of songs yet.

Television

Pg 22



Sanctuary leaves the studio and goes to Tokyo.



At a glance
Couples Retreat ●●½

Music

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

O'Hara brings beast to life

Canadian-born actress a Wild Thing in classic children's tale

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Catherine O'Hara has done her fair share of voiceover work, but never before has she had her performance recorded while rolling around on a stage with a microphone strapped to her forehead.

"It's not like standing behind a mike by yourself in a booth, like you usually do," she says. "We were all together playing the scenes."

The technique allowed O'Hara, and her fellow creatures in Where The Wild Things Are, which opens next week, to more fully embody their characters.

And, O'Hara admits, she may have embodied her character — Judith, a troublesome Wild Thing with a sharp horn — a bit too much.

"I was kind of shocked when I saw the movie and it wasn't me," she says. "I thought I was actually in the movie."



Catherine O'Hara voiced the horned creature Judith in Where The Wild Things Are.

Where The Wild Things Are opens next week

Of course, all that time on stage gave O'Hara, a veteran of many great ensemble casts, the chance to work more closely with her co-stars, including Forest Whitaker, James Gandolfini, Lauren Ambrose and Chris Cooper, something she appreciated greatly.

The movie is based on a 23-page book, so there wasn't a whole lot of source material for O'Hara to draw on in defining her character. Luckily, the Second City veteran has something of a knack for improvisation, as any fan of her work in Christopher Guest's films already knows.

But she and her co-stars also felt enormous pressure to successfully bring director Spike Jonze's interpretation of the beloved children's book to the screen. She's proud of the result, even though it may not be exactly what all of the book's fans are expecting.

"I know everyone who's trying to sell a movie says this, but I think it is so up for interpretation, like the book," O'Hara says. "And it's as simply presented as possible, in the world of film.

"I know Spike really fought for that, to not explain everything, and to make it as open to interpretation as possible. And I think he pulled it off."

On the web

• For movie trailers, photos and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

The ick-ing point



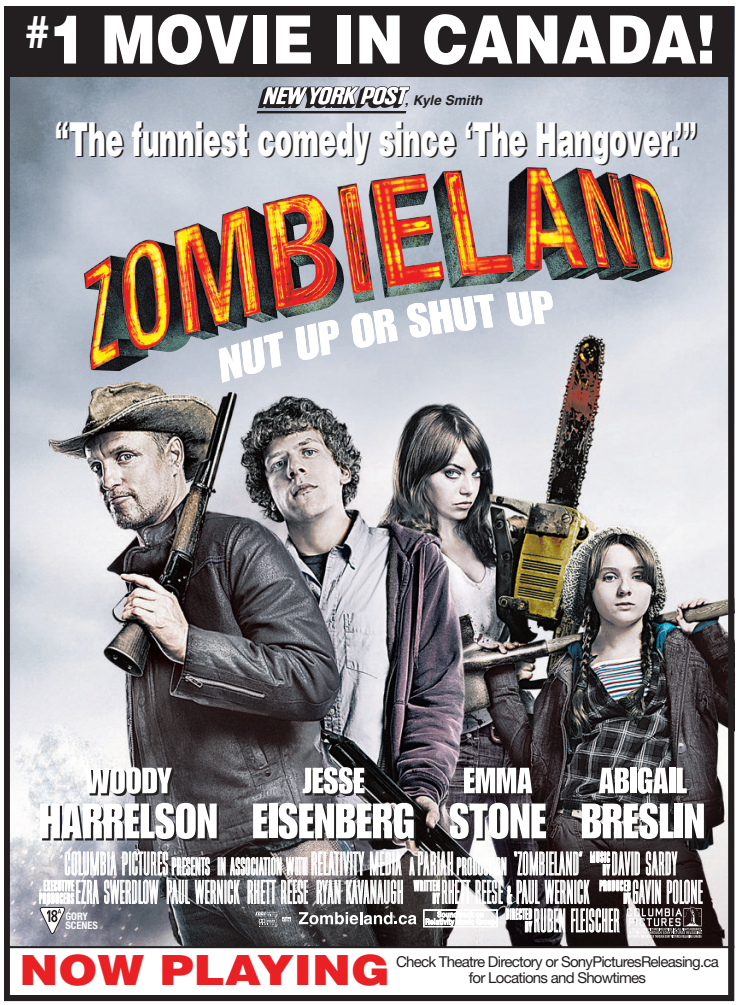
Spike Jonze and Max Records.

• For his big-screen adaptation of Where the Wild Things Are, director Spike Jonze was trying very hard to get inside the mind of a child.

And to get into the head of the child at the centre of the film, newcomer Max Records, the director had to be willing to make some sacrifices.

Late in the film, young Max takes refuge inside one of the titular wild things, emerging after covered in goop. Jonze admits this was one sequence his star wasn't totally game for.

"He just did not want to get in it," Jonze remembers." He said, 'I'll only do it if afterward you let me cover you in it.' So afterward we went back to his room and he just covered me in it." NED EHRBAR/ METRO WORLD NEWS





Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Life's dull at Retreat

Couples Retreat

Director: Pete Billingsley
Stars: Vince Vaughn, Jon Favreau, Malin Akerman
Classification: PG
Rating: ½

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada



Malin Akerman and Vince Vaughn star in Couples Retreat.

When Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau debuted Swingers in 1996, it seemed like the world got two new kings of comedy. The pair's output since then has been disappointingly inconsistent, bringing both big hits (Old School for Vaughn, Iron Man for Favreau as a director) and big misses (you know the ones).

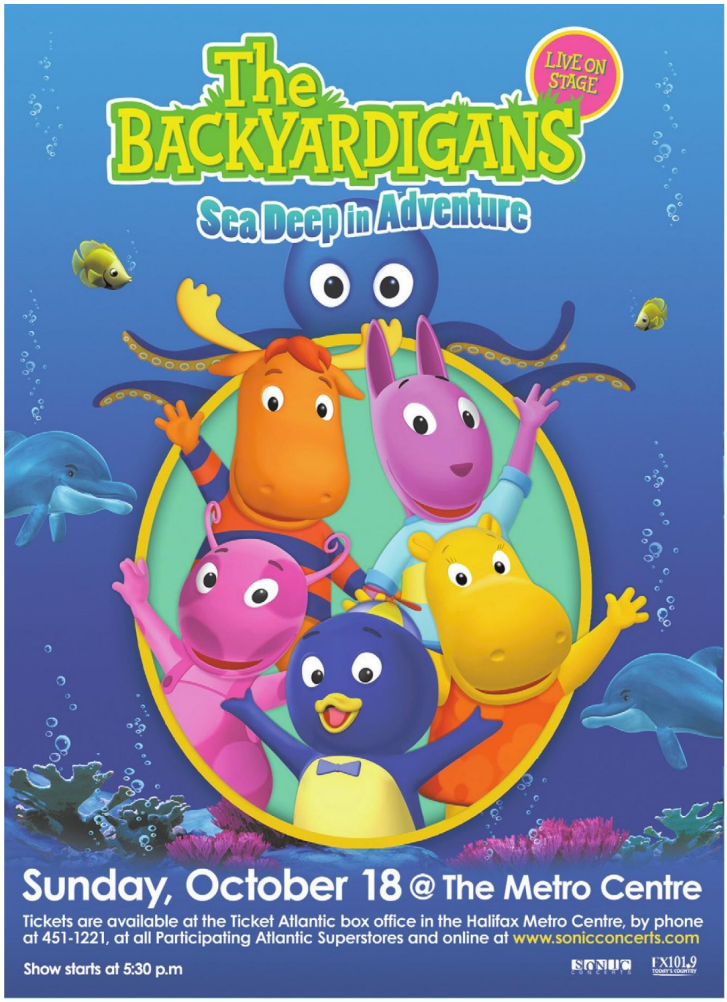
But at least there was always the hope that when the pair worked together as writers it would guarantee quality. Unfortunately that hope has vanished with Couples Retreat. Favreau and Vaughn teamed up on both sides of the camera for this romantic comedy, but sadly produced one of their weakest efforts.

Vaughn and Favreau star as a pair of married men who are talked into a week-long holiday retreat with their near-divorced friend, played by Jason Bateman, and their wives. Unfortunately when they get to the tropical resort, they learn they've been swindled into a week of couple's therapy.

Guess what? The couples that thought their relationships worked end up being just as dysfunctional as the ones planning a divorce.

It's all very predictable and while the actors bring out their established comic personas through a series of marathon improv sessions, the smattering of laughs can't enliven the tired plot.

The wives are all played by talented actresses (Malin Akerman, Kristin Bell, and Kristin Davis), but unfortunately none of them are permitted to do much beyond looking dumbfounded as the guys make fools of themselves. This problem sums up the film, which feels like a series of missed opportunities.









Butler not afraid of stripping

Gerard Butler loves showing his butt on screen. The 39-year-old actor — who flashes his flesh in Law Abiding Citizen — has no problem with stripping off for film roles, adding he thinks most cinema-goers like to see some nakedness. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Vaughn, Favreau ... and Billingsley



Everyone knows Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau are BFFs. They've co-starred in a number of movies and when they aren't sharing the screen they're sharing producing and writing credits.

They are to Hollywood what toast and jam is to breakfast. That is to say, it's almost unthinkable to have one without the other. But just as peanut butter can spice up any slice of toast and jam, the Vaughn/Favreau recipe for success has a third secret ingredient.

The name Peter Billingsley may not ring a bell, but say the phrase "You'll shoot your eye out," and suddenly the image of the blonde youngster with oversized glasses and a Christmas wish for a Red Ryder BB gun comes to mind.

His portrayal of Ralphie in A Christmas Story is a classic; but that was 1983 and this is now. He's all grown up and after making over 100 commercials and countless after-school specials he's now a big time producer and director, most often working as the third leg of Vince and Jon's tripod.

He produced Iron Man, Zathura and others with Favreau, and The Break Up and Wild West Comedy Show with Vaughn. This weekend he steps behind the camera to direct his two pals in Couples Retreat.

He hasn't, however, completely from acting. One of the pleasures of the Wild West Comedy show was watching Billingsley and Vaughn re-enact a scene from the after school special The Fourth Man, a hyper-serious drama about a kid who gets hooked on steroids.

But his appearances haven't been confined to poking fun at his earlier work. In 1993 he starred in an underrated straight-to-video sci fi/horror gem called Arcade (written by Batman's David S. Goyer) playing a "virtual reality addict" who frees a tormented spirit from a video game. It's a TRON wannabe, but good b-movie fun nonetheless.

The next year he wrote, directed and starred in the short film The Sacred Fire, a psychological drama about a vampire hunter.

More recently he has confined himself to bit parts in the movies he produces. Catch peeks of him in The Break-Up, Iron Man and Four Christmases.

Billingsley is one of the rare happy endings from Hollywood's child star system.

"Pete has great ideas and he's a really balanced, easy, smart and nice guy," says Vaughn. "He's really intelligent but really just respectful of people."





A director now, Pete Billingsley is best remembered for being Ralphie in A Christmas Story.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.





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Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 9 TO THURS., OCT. 15. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

BAYERS LAKE
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9 (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:45-4:15-6:55
All About Steve (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-3:45-7:10-9:50
Capitalism: A Love Story (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-4-6:50-9:45
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-6:40-9:15
Couples Retreat (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-1:25-3:50-4:15-6:50-7:10-9:40-10
Fame (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:15-7-9:40
The Final Destination (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 9:50
The Informant! (14) Dolby Stereo Fri-Tue 1:45-4:20-7:15-10 Dolby Stereo Wed 1:45-4:20-10 Dolby Stereo Thu 1:45-4:20-7:15-10
The Invention of Lying (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:30-4:05-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:30-4:05-7:05-9:45
Jennifer's Body (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:25-3:50-7:15-10
Love Happens (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:10-9:50
Pandorum (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-3:55-6:55-9:35
Surrogates (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating, Digital Fri-Thu 1:25-4:10-7:20-9:55
Toy Story & Toy Story 2 3D Double Feature (STC) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo, No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4:45-8:45 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Mon 1-4:45-8:45 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Tue 1-7:30 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Wed 1-7:25 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Thu 1-7:30
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:30-10
Whip It (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-9:50
Zombieland (18) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:40-4:25-7:25-10:05 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 1:40-4:25-7:25-10:05

IMAX
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
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Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Dolby Stereo, No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-7-9:35

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6408 Quinpool Rd.
902-423-7488

Bright Star (PG) Fri 6:45-9:30 Sat-Mon 4-6:45-9:30 Tue-Thu 6:45-9:30

PARK LANE
5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860

Army of Darkness (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 11:30
Capitalism: A Love Story (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-3:35-6:35-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat 3:35-6:35-9:25 Stadium Seating Sun 12:45-3:35-6:35-9:25 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 3:35-6:35-9:25 Stadium Seating Thu 3:35-9:25
Couples Retreat (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:50-3:30-6:40-9:20-11:50 Stadium Seating Sun 12:50-3:30-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:30-6:40-9:20
Fame (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 1:10-4:10-7-9:30-11:45 Stadium Seating Sat 1:10-7-9:30-11:45 Stadium Seating Sun 1:10-4:10-7-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:30
The Invention of Lying (PG) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-3:50-6:30-8:50-11:10 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-3:50-6:30-8:50 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-6:30-8:50
Surrogates (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:45-4:20-7:20-10 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 4:20-7:20-10 Stadium Seating Thu 4:20-7:20
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 1:40-4:15-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat 6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Sun 1:40-4:15-6:50-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon 4:15-9:45 Stadium Seating Tue 4:15-9:25 Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 4:15-6:50-9:10
Whip It (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1-3:40-6:20-9-11:20 Stadium Seating Sun 1-3:40-6:20-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:20-9
Zombieland (18) No Passes, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:30-4-7:10-9:40-11:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Sun 1:30-4-7:10-9:40 No Passes, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:10-9:40

LOWER SACKVILLE

LOWER SACKVILLE
760 Sackville Dr., 902-869-2022

All About Steve (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:45-3:10-7-9:15 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 7:10-9:15
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:20-8:50 Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:30-2:50-6:20-8:50 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:20-8:50
Couples Retreat (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 1-3:50-6:50-9:30 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:50-9:30
Fame (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:50-3:20-6:40-9:10 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:40-9:10
The Invention of Lying (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 6:30-9 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Mon 12:40-3-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:30-9
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 1:10-3:40-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 7:10-9:40
Zombieland (18) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri



7-9:20 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:20-3:30-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon 1:20-3:30-7-9:20 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 7-9:20

DARTMOUTH

DARTMOUTH CROSSING
145 Shubie Dr., 902-481-3251

Capitalism: A Love Story (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 12:45-3:30-6:20-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 12:45-6:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 6:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:45-6:20-10
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 2:05-4:30-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 11:45-2:05-4:30-7-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 2:05-4:30-7-9:30
Couples Retreat (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:55-3:35-6:30-9:20
Fame (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:55-4:35-7:25-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 4:35-7:25-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Tue 1:55-4:35-7:25-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 7:25-10
The Informant! (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Mon 1:05-4:05-6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:30-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 3:30-9:10
The Invention of Lying (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1:25-4:10-6:55-9:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:25-4:10-6:55-9:25
Love Happens (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:40-4:25-7:15-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 7:15-9:50
The Metropolitan Opera: Tosca - Live (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat 2
Surrogates (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7:30-9:55
Toy Story & Toy Story 2 3D Double Feature (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 1:45-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 11:45-3:45-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 11:45-3:45-7:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 1:45-7:45
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:25-3:55-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 1:25-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:25-3:55-6:40-9:15
Whip It (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4-6:50-9:30
Zombieland (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 2:15-4:40-7:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:15-4:40-7:20-9:45

TRURO

TRURO
20 Treaty Trail, 902-895-8020

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:40-7:10-9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 2:40-6:30-8:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:30-8:35
Couples Retreat (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2-6:30-9 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 2-6-8:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6-8:20
Fame (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:10-6:40-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 2:10-6:05-8:25 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:05-8:25
The Invention of Lying (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 7-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 2:30-7-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 2:30-6:20-8:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Tue-Thu 6:20-8:45
Surrogates (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:50-7:20-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 2:50-6:45-8:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:45-8:40
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:20-6:50-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 2:20-6:10-8:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 6:10-8:15
Zombieland (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 7:30-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 3-7:30-9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 3-6:25-8:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Tue-Thu 6:25-8:30

BRIDGEWATER

BRIDGEWATER
349 Lahave St., 902-527-4020

Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (G) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:15 Mon 2-6:15-8:30 Tue-Thu 6:15-8:30
Couples Retreat (PG) Fri 6:30-9:10 Sat-Sun 2:30-6:30-9:10 Mon 2:30-5:45-8:25 Tue-Thu 5:45-8:25
Fame (STC) Fri 6:40-9:25 Sat-Sun 2:20-6:40-9:25 Mon 2:20-5:55-8:40 Tue-Thu 5:55-8:40
Love Happens (PG) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 2:15-6:50-9:40 Mon 2:15-6:05-8:55 Tue-Thu 6:05-8:55
Surrogates (STC) Fri 6:45-9 Sat-Sun 2:10-6:45-9 Mon 2:10-5:50-8:05 Tue-Thu 5:50-8:05
Trailer Park Boys: Countdown to Liquor Day (STC) Fri 6:45-9:20 Sat-Sun 2:35-6:45-9:20 Mon 2:35-6-8:35 Tue-Thu 6-8:35
Zombieland (18) No Passes Fri 7:15-9:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:05-7:15-9:30 Mon 2:05-6:30-8:45 Tue-Thu 6:30-8:45



Billboard's top albums

1. Love is the Answer, Barbra Streisand; **2.** Brand New Eyes, Paramore; **3.** Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel, Mariah Carey; **4.** Dear Agony, Breaking Benjamin; **5.** Black Gives Way to Blue, Alice in Chains. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Music

Music can make us thankful

SoundCheck



The price of CDs has finally come down: Part of the reason file-sharing took off so fast ten years ago was because we wanted more music than we could afford to buy. And yes, CDs were too expensive. That's all changed today. Market forces 1, high prices, 0.

The price of singles has gone back to levels not seen since the '70s: Buying a 7-inch single back then cost anywhere from 99 cents to $1.29. What are the a la carte prices on for digital singles sold on iTunes and elsewhere? Ninety-nine cents to $1.29 — or, in some cases, even lower.

They still make turntables: Towards the ends of the '90s, every Christmas was framed as "the last time you'll ever be able to buy a turntable." Vinyl coughed up a lung and lingered in the ICU for a few years, but now it's been reborn.

Box sets: People will spend money on something that's perceived to have good value. Sure, you can BitTorrent Neil Young's entire oeuvre for free, but nothing downloadable can match the richness of his Archives box set.

The Internet: In the old days, people got their music from radio, magazines, friends, video channels and the guy at the record store. That still applies today, but now we have Facebook, Twitter, SoundCloud, YouTube, RapidShare, streams and an infinite number of BitTorrent sites. Instead of someone filtering the music for us, the entire universe lays open. Infinite choice is sometimes frustrating and scary, but would you have it any other way?

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Love and heartbreak

Song selection on Michael Bublé album inspired by breakup

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

When Michael Bublé broke up with longtime girlfriend and actress Emily Blunt last year the blogosphere went nuts. Nude photos of the singer were plastered on the web, vitriolic comments were abundant, and all his dirty laundry was aired for everyone to read. Not only was the split hard on the singer, it was the first time he became grist for the gossip mill.

"Some bloggers get a real kick out of the destruction of a human being," he says during a stop in Toronto. "I wonder if people ever think about the celebrity's family. You have brothers and sisters who are hurt by it. It's sad when people take the opportunity to be completely classless."



Crazy Love, the new album from Michael Bublé, is now out.

Surprisingly, one blogger the crooner has admiration for is Perez Hilton. Bublé says the controversial writer "seems to have a heart" and while he's frank "he doesn't seem to be as cruel as others."

While the kind words may stem from the fact that Bublé is advertising his new album — Crazy Love — all over Hilton's website, it can't hurt to say nice things about the blogger. Especially because the subject matter on his new disc could put him back on the celebrity website radar: it's about Blunt.

Actually, it's more about relationships in general — with an album full of covers he couldn't reveal too much about his break up — but the topic was inspired by the failed union.

"It's more about being introspective than speaking about issues in my relationship," says Bublé. "It's more about myself and the fact that I'm 34 years old. I look at this time in my life as an opportunity to work on myself and become a better guy."

To get his message across, Bublé put together his most diverse set of songs yet. The record tackles the poppy Cry Me a River, which was originally written for Ella Fitzgerald, the big band classic All I Do Is Dream Of You, the infectious R&B number Baby (You've Got What It Takes) — a duet with Sharon Jones — and he ends the record off alongside Ron Sexsmith and his fantastic song Whatever it Takes.

He even penned two of his own tunes, Hold On and Haven't Met You, which he says is "tons easier" than covering someone else's song.

"It's easier because no one can compare the song to the 400 iconic artists who recorded it before you," he says.





Finally, new shows that aren't being cancelled

CBS has ordered full seasons of freshman dramas The Good Wife and NCIS: Los Angeles. Both part of the network's Tuesday night lineup, they are the top two new series in this season's ratings. **TVGUIDE.COM**

Television

Cast gets a break from the green screen



Amanda Tapping in a scene from Space channel's Sanctuary.

This season, sci-fi show Sanctuary is on location in Tokyo

When cast members of the Canadian sci-fi series Sanctuary shoot a scene that takes place abroad, they don't usually get to see the landscape of the featured city, meet its people or breathe its air.

That's because most of the show is shot in front of a green screen in Vancouver, and it isn't until post-production that scenes are illustrated with the far-flung locales visited by Dr. Helen Magnus (Amanda Tapping) and her protégé, Will (Robin Dunne). The pair have a mission to protect monster-like creatures seen as a threat to society.

But for Season 2, debuting Friday, they got to shoot a scene on a real street corner in Tokyo, which was "pretty amazing and actually kind of weird," said Dunne.

"I'm sure people will be like, 'Wow, look at that — that is really good green screen,' " Dunne said in a recent telephone interview from New York, where he was promoting the show.

Sanctuary, created by Damian Kindler, began as a webisode series in early 2007 and was later picked up for TV, debuting in Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. in October 2008. Co-stars include Emilie Ullerup, Ryan Robbins and Christopher Heyerdahl.

New season debuts Friday on Space

The series — which is up for six Gemini Awards next month, including one for Dunne — is said to be the first in North America to use the Red camera, which captures images digitally at more than four times the resolution of a high-definition camera.

Dunne, who hails from Toronto and now lives in Los Angeles, said it was shocking at first to see himself in crisp resolution.

"I was like, God, I've got to start trimming my nose hairs. You could see every pore," said Dunne, whose other TV credits include Dawson's Creek, CSI: Miami and NCIS.

To help the cast, a visual-effects supervisor usually shows them drawings of how post-production elements will look.

That, along with the series' compelling scripts and strong acting, can make filming in front of a grass-coloured backdrop all day "a lot of fun," said Dunne.

"With all those elements, you kind of forget about the fact that you're standing on a stage that's got green floors and green walls and a green ceiling and sometimes even green props." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

FRIDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/9/09	31	31	31	ABC	News Center	ABC News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	FlashForward (HDTV)		Family	The Middle	20/20
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		America's Next Top Model		Comedy Now
	11	11	11	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ron James	Rick Mercer	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Patriots All Access		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Medium "Pain Killer"		NUMB3RS (N)
	6	6	6	CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Currents: Cat City (N)		NUMB3RS "7 Men Out"		Dollhouse (HDTV) (N)		News Final (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	Flashpoint (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Medium "Pain Killer"		CTV News
	36	36	36	FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Brothers	'Til Death (N)	Dollhouse (HDTV) (N)		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		Dateline NBC		Jay Leno
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	Morency	Covers	World Cup of Poker		WWE SmackDown!				MMA Night
	53	53	53	TSN	(3) FrancoscoGolf The Presidents Cup -- Day 2.				SportsCentre	CFL Pregame	CFL Football: Lions at Eskimos		
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Pro Per"		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN News	Investigates	Fish Out of	Blessings	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	*The River Rat* ★★ (1984, Adventure)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Wind at My Back		Battle of Wills		Bravo! Fact	Cover Stories	*Connie and Carla* ★★ (2004, Comedy)		
	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Junk Raiders		Man vs. Wild "Belize"		Machines
	34	48	48	HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House	Property	House	Green Homes	Relocation, Relocation		House
	46	46	46	HIST	Go Deep "Panama"		Battles BC (HDTV)		Cold Blood "Immortal"		Jetman		Underworld
	17	17	17	MM	Love Court	My Date	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		The Vampire Diaries		*Bring It On* ★★ (2000, Comedy)		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:40) *Ill Fated* ★★ (2004)			(8:20) *Lost Souls* (1998, Horror)			*Awakenings* ★★★ (1990, Drama)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Outer Limits		Howie Do It	Howie Do It	Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Trailer Park
	40	40	40	SLICE	Vanity Insanity "Recut"		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part
	21	21	21	TLC	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Dress	Wedded
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	Style by Jury	Old Christine	Friends	Medium (Part 1 of 2)		*The Good Shepherd* ★★ (2006, Drama)		
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	To Be Indie	*First Daughter* ★★ (2004, Romance-Comedy) Katie Holmes.					Prank Patrol	That's-Weird

SATURDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/10/09	31	31	31	ABC	College Football		NewsCenter 5	Inside Edition	College Football Michigan at Iowa. (HDTV) (Live)				
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Music Rising (DVS)		*Marker* (2005, Drama) Iris Graham. (DVS)			Whistler	
	11	11	11	CBC	National	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)					NHL Hockey	
	32	32	32	CBS	College Football		Entertainment Tonight		College Football Florida at LSU. (HDTV) (Live)				
	6	6	6	CIHF	renegade	Jane Show	Project Runway Canada		*Her Sister's Keeper* (2006, Suspense) Dahlia Salem.			News Final (N)	
	9	9	9	CJCH	We Day 2009 (N)				Law & Order: SVU		Flashpoint		CTV News
	36	36	36	FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	Golf: Presidents Cup		Golf The Presidents Cup -- Day 3. (HDTV) (Live)				Trauma "All's Fair"		Law/Ord SVU
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	MMA Show	Footy Show	WWE Vintage Collection		MMA Show	Cabby Unlimit	Score on NFL	Footy Show	Hockey Sat.
	53	53	53	TSN	Golf: Presidents Cup		Golf The Presidents Cup -- Day 3. (HDTV) (Live)				CFL Football: Argonauts at Roughriders		
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Sunblock"		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	70	70	70	APTN	Wings-Canada	Living, Dream	MYTV	Aboriginal Day	Music Speaks	First Nation	*Space Cowboys* ★★★ (2000, Adventure)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Spectacle: Elvis		Star Portraits	Books-Film	*A League of Their Own* ★★★ (1992)		
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	Corner Gas	House Party	The Simpsons	South Park	Iglesias: Fluffy
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Cash Cab (N)	Cash Cab	Destroyed	Destroyed	Junk Raiders		Loggers
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Handyman Superstar		House Hunters' Guide		Real Estate		Buying-Selling
	46	46	46	HIST	Rome "Caesarion"		Rome "Utica"		Rome "Triumph"		Rome "The Spoils"		Rome
	17	17	17	MM	The Vampire Diaries		*Bring It On* ★★ (2000, Comedy) Kirsten Dunst.				We Day 2009		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:15) *Top Gun* (1986)		(8:10) *Get Carter* ★ (2000, Suspense)				*24 Hour Party People* ★★★ (2002)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	*Ghost Rider*	About a Girl	The Guard (HDTV)		*The Perfect Assistant* (2008, Drama) Rachel Hunter.				*Ghost Rider*
	40	40	40	SLICE	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives of Jersey		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Real Housewives NYC		Runway
	21	21	21	TLC	Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline Myst.
	22	22	22	W	*First Wives*	*The Family Stone* ★★ (2005, Romance-Comedy) Dermot Mulroney.					*Because I Said So* (2007, Romance-Comedy)		
	27	27	27	YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Funniest Home Videos		Smallville		Survive This

SUNDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
primetime 10/11/09	31	31	31	ABC	NASCAR Racing Sprint Cup -- Pepsi 500.			Home Videos	Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		TMZ (N)		*Men in Black* ★★★ (1997, Comedy), Will Smith				Spectacle
	11	11	11	CBC	Heartland (N) (DVS)		Battle of the Blades (N)		The Nature of Things		CBC News: The National (N)		fifth estate
	32	32	32	CBS	NFL Football		60 Minutes (HDTV) (N)		The Amazing Race 15		Three Rivers (HDTV) (N)		Cold Case (N)
	6	6	6	CIHF	16:9 Picture	Prod. Parker	Brothers & Sisters (N)		The Simpsons	Cleveland Sh	Family Guy	American Dad	News Final (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		The Amazing Race 15		Desperate Housewives		CTV News
	36	36	36	FOX	Cold Case		Cleveland Sh	American Dad	The Simpsons	Cleveland Sh	Family Guy	American Dad	Fox First
	12	12	12	NBC	News	NBC News	Football Night in America		(9:15) NFL Football Indianapolis Colts at Tennessee Titans.				
sports	55	55	55	SCOR	(6) NFL Blitz		The WWE Experience		MMA Fight Night				Poker
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre		Football Night in America		(9:15) NFL Football Indianapolis Colts at Tennessee Titans.				
cable variety	16	16	16	A&E	CSI: Miami "Sunblock"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN InFocus	APTN InFocus	Aboriginal Day	Living, Dream	Arbor Live		*U.S. Marshals* ★★ (1998, Crime Drama)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Spectacle: Elvis		Arts & Minds	Bravo! Fact	Prokofiev-Unfinished Diary		*Red Dragon* ★★★ (2002, Suspense)		
	49	49	49	COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Laughs	Laughs	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	The Simpsons	South Park	Tosh.0
	18	18	18	CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38	DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	MythBusters		MythBusters		Discovering Ardi Hominid skeleton. (N)		
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes Inspection		House	House	Add Value to Your Home		Top 35 Selling Secrets		Staging
	46	46	46	HIST	Rome: Engineering an Empire The rise and the fall.				Cities of the Underworld		*Gladiator* (2000, Historical Drama)		
	17	17	17	MM	You Can Dance		Dance	My Date	Live in the Lot: Billy Talent		*Bring It On: All or Nothing* (2006, Comedy)		
	206	206	206	PIX	*Peggy Sue Got Married*		(8:10) *The Faculty* ★★ (1998, Horror), Clea DuVall				*Under Suspicion* ★★ (2000, Suspense)		
	39	39	39	SHOW	NCIS "Nine Lives"		ReGenesis "The Trials"		*Mistaken* (2008, Suspense) Lana Parrilla.				Weeds
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted		My Wardrobe	My Wardrobe	Tim Gunn's Guide to Style		Tori & Dean: Home		Re-Vamped
	21	21	21	TLC	Untold Stories of the E.R.		Untold Stories of the E.R.		Mermaid Girl (HDTV)		Mermaid Girl: A New Chapter		Shocking
	22	22	22	W	*I Said So*	Hwd 10 Best	How to Look Good Naked		*For the Love of Grace* (2008, Drama) Mark Consuelos.				*Dream-Murder*
	27	27	27	YTV	*Cheaper by the Dozen 2* ★★ (2005, Comedy)				OddParents	H2O, Just Add	In Real Life		Survive This



Jackson MD faces arrest

DEADBEAT Michael Jackson's doctor, who is being investigated in the singer's death, could now face arrest and lose his medical licence after missing a hearing to explain late child support payments, the Las Vegas district attorney said yesterday. An arrest warrant could be approved for Dr. Conrad Murray, who owes $13,000 in child support to a California woman. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Literature

German writer wins Nobel Prize

Herta Mueller, a member of Romania's ethnic German minority who was persecuted for her critical depictions of life behind the Iron Curtain, won the 2009 Nobel Prize in literature Thursday in an award seen as a nod to the 20th anniversary of communism's collapse.

Mueller was honoured for work that "with the concentration of poetry and the frankness of prose, depicts the landscape of the dispossessed," the Swedish Academy said.

The 56-year-old author made her debut in 1982 with a collection of short stories titled Niederungen, or Nadirs, depicting the harshness of life in a small, German-speaking village in Romania. It was promptly censored by the communist government.

In 1984 an uncensored version was smuggled to Germany, where it was published and devoured by readers. That work was followed by Oppressive Tango in Romania but she was eventually prohibited from publishing inside her country for her criticism of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's rule and its feared secret police, the Securitate.

"The Romanian national press was very critical of these works while, outside of Romania, the German press received them very positively," the Academy said.

Mueller, whose father served in the Waffen SS during the Second World War, is the third European to win the prize in a row and the 10th German, joining Guenter Grass in 1999 and Heinrich Boell in 1972.

> **"There is an incredible force in what she writes, she has a very, very unique style."**
> Peter Englund, Swedish Academy

"I think that there is an incredible force in what she writes, she has a very, very unique style," said Peter Englund, the permanent secretary of the Swedish Academy. "You read half the page and you know at once that it's Herta Mueller."

"At the same time she has something to tell, partly from her own background as a persecuted dissident in Romania, but also her own background as a stranger in her own country, a stranger to the political regime, a stranger to the majority language, and a stranger to her own family," he added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Vick gets TV show

Michael Vick, who recently returned to the NFL after an 18-month prison sentence, will star in a series documenting his life on BET, the Los Angeles Times reports. The eight-part program, tentatively called The Michael Vick Project, will debut in early 2010. TVGUIDE.COM

Mix of Six

Live Art Dance's Decidedly Jazz

When: Fri. and Sat., 8 p.m.
Where: Sir James Dunn Theatre

Choregraphed by Kimberley Cooper, the work is described as keeping the groove alive through eclectic Afro-fun rhythms. Tickets are $24, $20 and $16.50.

Quebec Major Junior Hockey League

When: Friday, 7 p.m.
Where: Halifax Metro Centre

The Halifax Mooseheads return home to face the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies, who defeated the Herd last Sunday in Quebec 4-2. Halifax has just one win in 10 starts this season.

Maritime Fall Fair

When: Friday through Monday
Where: Exhibition Park

This popular event returns with everything from horse and dog jumping, bull riding and livestock competition and displays. For ticket information visit ticketatlantic.com.

The Game of Love and Chance

When: Through Oct. 18
Where: Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall

The 2009-10 season opens under the direction of new artistic director George Pothitos with this comedy set in 18th century France. Tickets range in price from $15 to $45.

Bridges that Unite exhibit

When: Through Nov. 4
Where: Pier 21.

The bilingual travelling exhibition invites visitors to consider Canada's global leadership role through the lens of a remarkable 25-year partnership with the Aga Khan Development Network.

Ron Vaudry

When: Friday, 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8 and 10 p.m.
Where: Westin Nova Scotia

Need a laugh after a long week of work? Well, check out Vaudry whose biting, sometimes angry comedy is sure to leave you in stitches. Arthur Simeon and Bobby Mair are the openers.

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Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

Michael Bublé

ARTIST The Burnaby boy returns to what he does best — making other people's songs his own. His new album Crazy Love will surely sell millions, like his previous efforts. A tour is on the cards as well. Girls, keep you smelling salts ready.

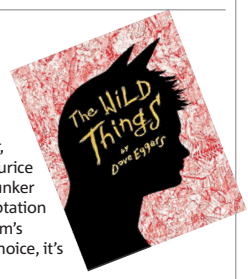


2 Paranormal Activity

FILM This $15,000 horror flick is being hailed as the Blair Witch Project of the online age. The tale of a couple's nighttime ordeal is backed by a unique marketing campaign — you can "demand" its release in your city through the film's website. Greater the number of hits, better the chances of it coming to a theatre near you. "If 1,000,000 visitors 'demand' the film, it will open nationwide, making it the first-ever major film release decided by you," the site claims.

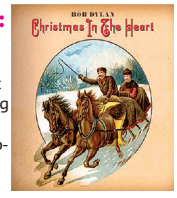
3 The Wild Things: David Eggers

BOOK With Spike Jonze's big-screen version of Where The Wild Things Are around the corner, you and your kids could revisit Maurice Sendak's classic tale. Or you can hunker down with this novel-sized re-adaptation by Eggers, who also penned the film's screenplay. No matter what your choice, it's going to be monster fun.



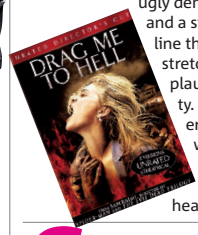
4 Christmas in the Heart: Bob Dylan

ALBUM Skeptics, prepare for eggnog on your faces. Turns out the 68-year-old legend is wowing critics with his take on yuletide cheer. The Los Angeles Times called it "an astute exploration of the roots of holiday music." The fact that all proceeds from sales go to food charities is another good reason to ring them bells.



5 Drag Me To Hell

DVD If you are a fan of The Evil Dead, you might like this. If you are a fan of The Evil Dead: Army of Darkness, you will call it the film of the year. Starring Alison Lohman and Justin Long, the movie is vintage Sam Raimi — evil curses, ugly demons and a storyline that stretches plausibility. In other words, horror heaven.



6 The Big Bang Theory

TV The geeks-meet-beauty comedy opened its third season with a bang, garnering nearly 13 million viewers. Right now, it's breathing down sitcom king Two and A Half Men. With lead Jim Parsons' impeccable comic timing and genuine smarts on its side, the CBS show may well wear the crown soon.

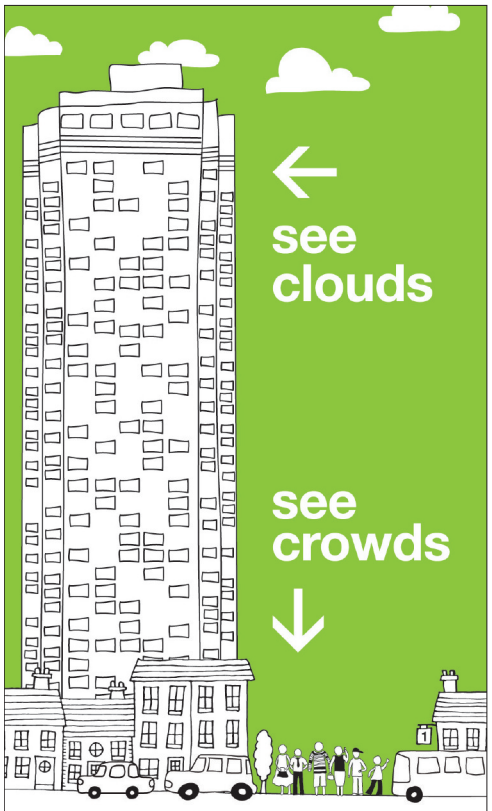
7 Yann Martel

AUTHOR The acclaimed Canadian novelist is going to space. Sort of. The Life of Pi author's poem What The Drop of Water Had To Say sets the theme of a show, which will be hosted by Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberte from the International Space Station today.

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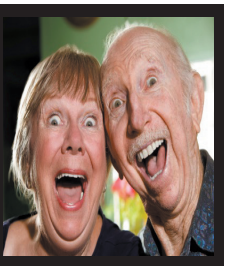
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No fillers for Tina

Tina Fey opens up about her appearance in the new issue of Harper's Bazaar, insisting that while high-tech cosmetic surgery isn't out of the question, she's not the type to go in for Botox. METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity Buzz

Britney wants full custody of kids

BUT HOW WILL SHE PROVE KEVIN'S A JACKASS? Britney Spears is ready to take full custody of her children, and she's reportedly about to file papers to make it a reality. "Britney feels that leaving Kevin (Federline) in charge has turned her sons into cursing, ill-mannered little boys who don't behave. Britney wants to be the one who chooses where the boys go to school and where they go to church, a source tells the National Enquirer. "She wants full custody and for Kevin to have visitation. Britney feels that Kevin is now the one with problems that the judge needs to hear about. She believes he's become a poor role model for Sean and Jayden." METRO NEWS SERVICES



Has Miley tweeted her last?

SAY IT AIN'T SO There's a little less celebrity tweeting in the online universe today. Miley Cyrus has deleted her Twitter page after posting a message apparently referencing Australian actor Liam Hemsworth, her The Last Song costar and rumored love interest, people.com reports.

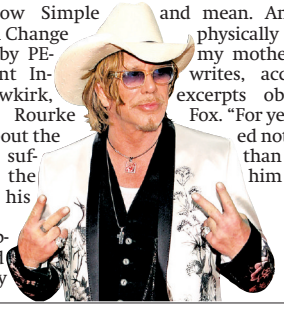
"FYI Liam doesn't have a Twitter and he wants ME to delete mine with good reason," the singer Tweeted. So, her Twitter account is now gone, as is her mom's. Cyrus' sister Brandi and brother Trace are still Tweeting. But in her absence, fans have rallied — and #mileycomeback is currently Twitter's top trending topic. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Stepdad was abusive: Mickey

CONFESSIONAL In the new book One Can Make a Difference: How Simple Actions Can Change the World by PETA president Ingrid E. Newkirk, Mickey Rourke opens up about the abuse he suffered at the hand of his stepfather.

"My stepfather used to crack my head just because he felt like it. He was big, very big, and mean. And he was physically abusive to my mother," Rourke writes, according to excerpts obtained by Fox. "For years, I wanted nothing more than to take him down." METRO NEWS SERVICES



Key document in Travolta case was burned: Officer

CELEB JUSTICE A Bahamas police officer testified yesterday that a woman on trial for allegedly trying to blackmail John Travolta acknowledged burning a document at the centre of the case.

Pleasant Bridgewater, one of two defendants in the alleged plot to demand $25 million US from the movie star, told police the day she was arrested that she destroyed the form with Travolta's signature "after she noticed the situation was about to explode," Det. Deborah Thompson said.

The document was related to the treatment of Travolta's 16-year-old son, Jett, who suffered a seizure at a family vacation home on Grand Bahama island. It would have released the ambulance driver of liability had the youth been flown to the U.S. for treatment, as Travolta initially wanted.

Jett instead was taken to a hospital where he died on Jan. 2. Travolta has testified that the ambulance driver, Tarino Lightbourne, threatened to sell the media stories suggesting he was at fault in his son's death. Bridgewater, who is accused of negotiating on Lightbourne's behalf, is a lawyer who resigned from the Bahamas senate following her arrest on Jan. 22. Both defendants have pleaded not guilty to extortion.

Thompson testified she was searching Bridgewater's law office when the defendant said she would not find the document. Bridgewater said she had burned it and flushed it down the toilet at her house. Police then went to the house and police took a candle as evidence, Thompson said.

Thompson was among the final prosecution witnesses at the trial that began Sept. 21. Defence lawyers plan to call four witnesses including a doctor from the resort community. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Dr. Phil held me captive, woman alleges in suit

NOT AS SEXY AS IT SOUNDS A woman is suing Dr. Phil and claiming he held her captive at his production offices, forced her to stare at a naked man and then grabbed her left breast, according to TMZ. The woman's suit, filed in Los Angeles, alleges that the TV therapist had a member of his staff block the doorway so she could not leave. The incident is said to have taken place in 2007. METRO NEWS SERVICES



Daisy was mine too, says Nick

DEARLY DEPARTED Nick Lachey is devastated by the death of Jessica Simpson's lesbian dog, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former boy band singer — who got the pooch, Daisy, for his ex-wife when they were married — was horrified to hear the beloved mutt had been snatched by a coyote.

He said: "I think a lot of people forget that Daisy was my dog too — for years. I'm sure she was upset. I was upset."

However, the 35-year-old star has had time to come to terms with his grief, and is now feeling philosophical about Daisy's demise. He told Access Hollywood: "I didn't reach out to Jessica. It was sad to hear that had happened, but it's part of the cycle of life."

After Daisy disappeared, Jessica posted a heartfelt plea on Twitter for information on her whereabouts.

Jessica, 29, wrote: "My heart is broken because a coyote took my precious Daisy right in front of our eyes, HORROR! We are searching. Hoping. Please help! (sic)" METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Ben Stiller thinks he's using Twitter a lot if you look at it the right way, Demi Lovato has a shopping problem, Jonathan Ross loves scientific discoveries, and Courtney Love can only be reached on Twitter.

• @RedHourBen
On the geological timeline I am tweeting incessantly.

• @ddlovato
Urban Outfitters will be the death of me.

• @wossy
Good morning. They have discovered a new ring of ice around Saturn. Makes me feel all christmas-sy. !

• @courtneylover79
its pathetic that Twitter has become my sole means of communicating. email doesnt work. phone is completely hacked. either call mgmt or pr! METRO WORLD NEWS



Kourtney doesn't know sex of baby

CELEB SPAWN Just three months away, Kourtney Kardashian still doesn't know whether she's having a boy or a girl, usmagazine.com reports. "I think I want to know soon just for planning purposes," she said. "I ordered a few things, some neutral stuff, but I want to order other stuff. I'm in nursery planning mode." METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS



The Weather Network ©The Weather Network 2009

Today Variable 12° / 7°

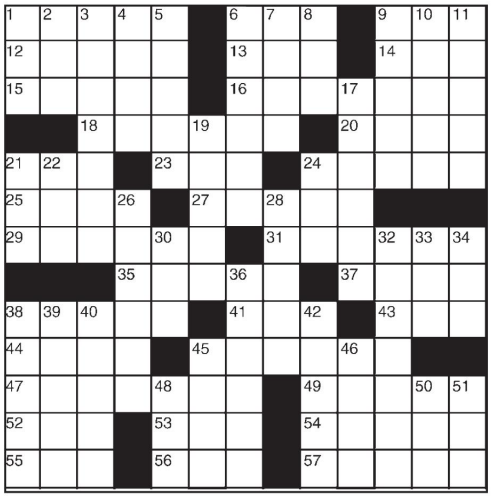
Saturday Rain 90% 16° / 6°

Sunday Sunny 12° / 5°

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Take Five



ACROSS

1 Army rank
6 Huge
9 Matterhorn, for one
12 Eat away
13 Tramcar contents
14 Knightly address
15 Trapshooting
16 "Alas!"
18 Motivated
20 Urban fleet
21 Tackle moguls
23 Listening device
24 Wheels of fortune?
25 Scull lineup
27 Hosiery fabric
29 Large constrictor
31 Zeroes
35 Precise
37 Campbell's product
38 Analyze
41 "— Wiedersehen"
43 Greek H
44 Undo a dele
45 Followed
47 Slight footing
49 Staffordshire ceramicware
52 Shade provider
53 Latin 101 word
54 Norton's workplace
55 In medias —
56 Supporting
57 Meddler

DOWN

1 Month (Sp.)
2 Deluge refuge
3 2001 David Spade movie
4 Baltic Sea feeder
5 Fix a stubborn knot
6 Section of NYC, with "The"
7 Unyielding
8 "Golly!"
9 Black tea of India
10 People will bend over backward to do it
11 Fourth estate
17 Cupcake enhancements
19 Woman of letters?
21 Bribe
22 Bandleader Kyser
24 Singer Rawls
26 Scabbard
28 Yoga position
30 Anti-acne brand
32 Square-dance party
33 Historic boy king
34 Resort
36 Frankness
38 Autumn bloom
39 Filched
40 Appears to be
42 Persnickety
45 Ticklish Muppet
46 Duel tool
48 Lummox
50 P.I.
51 Geologic period

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

8	7				3	9		
4			2	9				3
					6	2		
		3		1				8
	2						7	
9				7		1		
		4	5					
3				2	8			1
		8	1				3	5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	7	2	6	3	9	8	4	5
6	5	8	2	4	1	9	3	7
9	4	3	5	7	8	2	1	6
4	6	9	8	2	7	1	5	3
2	3	5	1	6	4	7	9	8
7	8	1	9	5	3	6	2	4
8	2	4	3	9	6	5	7	1
5	1	7	4	8	2	3	6	9
3	9	6	7	1	5	4	8	2

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Tofu-stuffed Pasta Shells

INGREDIENTS:

15 uncooked jumbo pasta shells
1 1/2 cups (375 ml) firm tofu
3 tbsp (45 ml) grated Romano cheese, divided
2 garlic cloves, peeled
1 package (10 oz/300 g) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and dried
1 can (14 oz/398 ml) Italian diced tomatoes, drained
1 can (8 oz/250 g) tomato sauce
1/4 cup (50 ml) dry red wine
1/2 cup (125 ml) shredded mozzarella cheese

METHOD:

1. Cook pasta shells according to package directions. Meanwhile, in blender, combine tofu, 2 tbsp (25 ml) Romano cheese and garlic until smooth. (Add 1 tbsp/15 ml water if mixture is too thick.) Add spinach; process until blended. Drain shells; stuff with tofu mixture.

2. In small bowl, combine tomatoes, tomato sauce and wine. Spread 1/2 cup (125 ml) sauce in 11-in. x 7-in. x 2-in. (28 cm x 18 c, x 2 cm) baking dish coated with nonstick cooking spray. Arrange stuffed shells over sauce. Top with remaining sauce.

3. Cover and bake at 350 F (180 C) 25 minutes. Uncover; sprinkle with mozzarella and remaining Romano. Bake 8-10 minutes or until shells are heated through and cheese is melted.

SERVES 5

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
You may have to cut corners and bend rules today but anything is preferable to allowing a task to encroach on your weekend.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Your desire to impress other people could lead to you overestimating your abilities and taking on too much work today.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
There is nothing you cannot do if you want it enough. You can turn dreams into realities today, and any day, simply by being yourself.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The important thing today is that you know your own mind. Others' opinions may look inviting but you don't need to adopt what they believe.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
This is not a good time to be adventurous financially. However, this is a good time for travel and social activities, so get out and have fun, but watch costs.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You must be aware of what is going on around you and you must recognize to what extent other people's decisions affect your ambitions.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
It's a great time to be a Libra, and it will be even better today as your confidence blossoms. Don't listen to those who say you should be cautious.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
If you were planning something spectacular over the next few days you might like to think again.There's no need to rush or take risks.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
It's likely you will have to deal with people who challenge your idea of what is important in life. Don't let them persuade you to change your outlook.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
It may seem as if you are being swept along by forces over which you have no control. What matters though is how you deal with those forces.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You won't have to spend a lot of money to get what you desire today: most likely you will get it for free. Your persuasive powers are considerable.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
If you try to get out of something you have already agreed to do you won't be the most popular Pisces in the neighborhood today.

This day in history

OCT. 9, 1514: Marriage of Louis XII of France and Mary Tudor.
OCT. 9, 1806: Prussia declares war on France.
OCT. 9, 1919: Black Sox scandal: The Cincinnati Reds "win" the World Series.
OCT. 9, 1967: A day after being captured, Marxist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara is executed for attempting to incite a revolution in Bolivia.
OCT. 9, 1986: The musical The Phantom of the Opera has its first performance at Her Majesty's Theatre in London.
OCT. 9, 2001: Second mailing of anthrax letters from Trenton, New Jersey in the 2001 anthrax attack.



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- J.D. POWER AND ASSOCIATES



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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Last year's starting price is the lease/finance starting price as of December 2008 for a 2009 Elantra L/2009 Tucson L/2009 Santa Fe 2.7L GL. Prices for models shown: 2009 Elantra Limited of $20,295/2009 Tucson Limited of $27,495/2009 Santa Fe Limited of $32,445. ¥Prices calculated after deducting price adjustments off the lease/finance starting prices. Price adjustments of $1,000/$3,500 available on a 2009 Elantra Touring L 5-speed/2010 Sonata GL 5-speed. Prices for models shown (after deducting price adjustments): 2009 Elantra Touring GL with Sport Package is $20,195/2010 Sonata Limited model shown is $30,499. ♦♦Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495 for 2009 Elantra/$1,495 for 2009 Elantra Touring/$1,765 for 2009 Tucson/$1,765 for 2010 Sonata, registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,000 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. †Fuel economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption ratings for the 2010 Sonata GL auto (8.0ZL/100km) and 2009 EnerGuide combined fuel consumption ratings for the full size vehicle class. Fuel Consumption for 2010 Sonata GL automatic (HWY 6.2L/100km, 46 mpg; CITY 9.9L/100km, 30 mpg) is based on manufacturer testing. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. ‡You may qualify for an additional incentive ($300 in B.C.) if you turn in your 1995 model year and older vehicle and participate in the national Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada. To qualify, your vehicle must be 1995 model year or older, in running condition and fully registered and insured in the participant's province for the last 6 consecutive months (12 months in B.C.). Upon confirmation of eligibility for the Retire Your Ride program, Hyundai Auto Canada will provide an additional Clean Air Commitment incentive in the amount of $500 - 2009 Accent / $500 - 2009 Elantra sedan / $500 - 2009 Elantra Touring / $500 - 2009 Sonata / $500 - 2009 Tucson / $500 - 2009 Santa Fe / $1,000 - 2009 Genesis Sedan / $1,000 - 2009 Genesis Coupe. See Retire Your Ride program for complete details. Offer cannot be combined with any other Hyundai retail incentive, lease or finance rate. Offer subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ΦThe Hyundai Elantra received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,000 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details. ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Retote Program. 12Hyundai was ranked highest in initial quality among compact car brands in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,000 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. See dealer for details. Retire Your Ride Program: Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. and used under licence. To be eligible for the Retire Your Ride program, you must turn in your 1995 model year or older vehicle to a participating dismantler or scrap metal recycler. Vehicle must be in running condition and fully registered and insured in the province for the last 6 consecutive months (12 months in B.C.). Vehicle must be towed to dismantler or scrap metal recycler at your expense. Vehicle must be towed to dismantler or scrap metal recycler by the date of purchase of a new Hyundai vehicle. Offer subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. For more information about the Retire Your Ride Program visit www.retireyourride.ca. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details.